MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 MARCH 1986

Libyan-U.S. Clash in Gulf of Sidra

Libya's version of the 24 March clash in the Gulf of Sidra was contained in an unscheduled announcement broadcast by Tripoli television, which claimed that Libyan air defenses responded to U.S. violations of Libyan airspace over the Gulf by shooting down three U.S. aircraft, two of them at noon and a third in the evening. The announcement added that the U.S. fleet shelled the "suburbs" of the city of Surt with rockets. JANA subsequently stated that U.S. planes attacked a "civilian" Libyan ship and cited a statement by an "informed source" claiming that U.S. aircraft attacked tugboats which went to assist the stricken vessel. Libyan forces, in contrast, permitted a U.S. helicopter to search the area where two U.S. planes were shot down, the source maintained. JANA also accused U.S. planes of following civilian aircraft as a means of obtaining radar cover to enter Libyan airspace.

Meanwhile, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio exhorted the Arab masses to storm and destroy all U.S. bases and targets in the Arab world and to execute U.S. "spies" posing as "experts and consultants." Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi discussed the U.S. "aggression" in a telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, SANA noted, and JANA subsequently announced Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's arrival in Tripoli.

In a related commentary reported by Damascus radio, the Syrian paper *AL-BA'TH* linked events in the Gulf of Sidra with "the tense situation on the northeastern front between Syria and the Zionist enemy," adding that the United States is openly backing Israeli "threats" against Syria. For Iran's part, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stressed "full support" for Libya in a statement cited by IRNA, asserting that the U.S. action was a "flagrant violation" of Libya's territorial integrity and is considered "an aggression against all Islamic states."

Sudan

At their meeting in the Ethiopian city of Koka, the National Alliance for National Salvation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) reached an agreement "on the broad lines of the situation which should precede official dialogue between the two sides," SUNA reported, adding that a committee was established to "formulate the resolutions which have been reached." Addis Ababa radio reported 25 March that the Sudanese delegations ended their meeting with an agreement to hold a constitutional congress in Khartoum in June. The National Alliance delegation head also announced that the two sides would meet again 7 May to prepare for the constitutional conference, while the SPLA delegation head said an agreement was reached that the Transitional Military Government will resign and that Sudanese military agreements with other countries will be canceled, the radio added.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian troops "succeeded in completely annihilating" an Iraqi brigade in heavy fighting along the Al-Bihar-Basra road 24 March, while Iranian naval forces sank Iraqi vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah before they could approach Iranian positions, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed.

OPEC Affairs

The OPEC conference meeting held in Geneva 16-24 March was adjourned until 15 April "in order to allow enough time for OPEC heads of delegations to consult their respective governments, as well as with other oil-producing exporting countries," according to a press statement carried by OPECNA. In a related report, the chief Iraqi delegate to the conference told AFP that Iraq is not prepared to compromise on its demand for a 13.1-percent quota of any oil production ceiling decided upon by the OPEC countries.

Israel; Inter-Arab Affairs

Israel has always welcomed direct talks with any Arab leader, senior Israeli officials said in reaction to a proposal by Morocco's King Hassan II that an Arab head of state be "elected" to meet with an Israeli official, Jerusalem radio reported. KUNA reported earlier that in an interview with Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH*, the Moroccan king proposed that an Arab leader meet with an Israeli official to "ascertain the enemy's views on the Fes summit resolutions." The king stressed that under his proposal, the Arab head of state "will not negotiate, will not be committed to anything, and will not sign anything."

Shelling in Southern Lebanon

An army of southern Lebanon (ASL) artillery attack on the southern market town of Al-Nabatiyah was not authorized by ASL Commander General Antoine Lahd, who has ordered the imprisonment of the ASL soldier responsible, Jerusalem radio reported. The shelling killed 3 people and wounded 24 others, the radio said.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Karmal Addresses Constitution Commission Session
LD231909 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The commission set up to draft the DRA constitution held its first session under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council this afternoon.

At the beginning of the session Babrak Karmal addressed the members of the commission and said: The history of the homeland entrusts you and us with a great responsibility and a very serious task. We are bound to draw up the first constitution of our free, revolutionary, and democratic state — the DRA. As the PDPA and the DRA have promised the noble and free people of Afghanistan, the draft of this constitution must be democratic, progressive, and based on lofty national interests and the strict observation of the sacred religion of Islam.

The real will and basic interest of workers, peasants, tradesmen, nomads, intellectuals, other toilers in social stratas, private investors, and all the democratic and patriotic forces of all the nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country should be reflected in the future constitution of Afghanistan.

The respect of the DRA for the human rights declaration following the peace-loving policy of friendship and cooperation with all the people of the region and world, the principles of defense of national independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and people's government in the DRA should be confirmed in this constitution.

The consolidation of unity and fraternity and the unity of all the people and all the nationalities and tribes resident in our united country — revolutionary Afghanistan — must constitute the base and foundation of the country's future constitution.

The realization of the objectives of the national and democratic April Revolution, the realization of the aims and wishes of the people of the country regarding building a new society, establishing peace, freedom, justice, fraternity, equality, democracy, and progress should be consolidated and legally constituted in the constitution.

The secretariat and its working group were elected after general discussion and study in this session of the commission and special instructions were given on their work procedure.

The work of the session ended with the recitation of few verses from the holy Koran by Qari Mohammad Nabi, preacher of the Pol-e Khasht-e communal mosque.

Karmal Sends Message to UN on Antiracism Day
LD230600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 22, BAKHTAR — "I express with great pleasure the full support of the people and the state of the DRA on the occasion of March 21, international day for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination."

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, in a message addressed to the United Nations secretary general.

The Government of the DRA, the message points out, being a member of international convention, has taken concrete and practical measures for the elimination of all kinds of racial discrimination and to ensure equality among the various nationalities, ethnic groups and tribes residing in the DRA regardless of their race, religious beliefs and social status.

The government has embodied many provisions of the international covenants on racism and racial discrimination in the fundamental principles of the DRA. But unfortunately, despite the indefatigable effort of the United Nations and the progressive forces of the world against the disgraceful system of racism and apartheid, millions of people are suffering from all kinds of racial discriminations and oppression on our planet, Babrak Karmal said in his message.

The miserable conditions in Palestine and the occupied Arab regions have further deteriorated due to the brutal discriminatory policy pursued by the Zionist regime of Israel, the message said.

Babrak Karmal expressed his firm conviction that the doctrine of racial discrimination is unjust and invoke hatred and hostility among the people. It posed grave danger to global peace and stability, and therefore, we strongly condemn such a policy.

Babrak Karmal assured the world body of full support of the DRA for the implementation of the lofty objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the international covenant regarding elimination of all kinds of racial discrimination and the United Nation's practical program of the 2nd decade directed against racism and racial discrimination.

Political Observer on Reagan's Announcement
LD250636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT Mar 25 86

[Text] Kabul, Mar 24, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The leadership of the United States does not want the situation around Afghanistan to be solved.

Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, once again announced March 21st, 1986, as the so-called "Afghanistan day" in the United States.

Reagan's announcement and the concern expressed by the White House for the solution of the situation around Afghanistan testify to the fact that such assertions are mere propaganda gimmicks and are aimed at deceiving the world public opinion. Otherwise, the White House could not have rejected the idea of finding a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan.

The United States which launched an undeclared war against the revolution and the people of Afghanistan right from the begin-

ning of the April Revolution, is expanding it by all means. This war which is the most expensive CIA operation after the Vietnam war, acquires new dimensions with every passing year. Reagan administration has spent one and a half billion dollars on this war.

It has allocated over 500 million dollars to the counter-revolution in new fiscal year. This is apart from the huge amounts spent through secret channels in this dirty war.

Washington administration is equipping the counter-revolution with arms and ammunition such as side-winder and stinger missiles, which were used for the shooting down of a civilian airliner.

It has also launched a large-scale psychological war on the DRA. Not only the saboteur [words indistinct] are carrying on hostile broadcasts against the DRA and the revolution but with the help of American dollars a new radio station of psychological war such as the so-called "Radio Free Afghanistan" has been established.

The high-ranking authorities of White House have become direct allies in this undeclared war.

Such official figures as Shultz and Weinberger, while visiting Pakistan had also visited Peshawar and the counter-revolutionary camps and military training camps of terrorists and each time presented to the counter-revolution cheques of millions of dollars.

Meeting with counter-revolutionary ringleaders have also been held time and again in the White House. Recently, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese during his visit to Peshawar conveyed the personal message of Ronald Reagan to the Afghan counter-revolution. It means that Reagan is personally heading the war as its organizer.

The United States is trying not only to drag ever-further its allies such as Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany to this undeclared war but it exerts pressure on them to allocate more budget to the counter-revolutionary gangs.

The meeting of Abdul Haq with Mrs Thatcher, British prime minister, her cabinet members and talks around the situation of Afghanistan by the parliamentary commission on foreign affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany are examples.

At this juncture, we should recall the arming of Pakistan with modern armaments and its American connivance of the nuclear programmed of Pakistan. This was the United States which sent its 7th Fleet led by nuclear-powered aircraft carrier *Enterprise* for a visit to the shores of Karachi.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, DRA, believes that the cessation of the undeclared war and reliable guarantee for the non-recurrence of any kinds of intervention constitute the basic conditions for the solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

UN Cooperation Group Sends Message to Perez de Cuellar

LD230640 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0518 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 22, BAKHTAR — Following is the message of the participants of the founding function of the Association of Cooperation With the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan addressed to Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the UNO:

The representatives of the vast strata of the working people of the DRA got together in Kabul at the founding function of the Association of Cooperation With the UN in Afghanistan on March 22, 1986.

The participants of the function, while expressing their full adherence to the UN Charter and their decisive support to the constructive and humanistic activities of the creditable international organisation, are expressing their opinion in connection with the most pressing issue of the contemporary world, that is the issue of peace, the most important aim of the UN. While appreciating the valuable activities of the UN towards preserving international peace and security, they are expressing anxiety and indignation on the existing tense international situation which is emanating from the adventurist policies of the initiators of limited nuclear war and threatens the very existence of humanity and its several thousand years old civilisation. They are manifesting their ever further readiness to struggle for preservation and consolidation of international peace and security, eliminating the danger of nuclear war and the scrapping of hotbeds of tension in different parts of the world.

The participants of the function express their anxiety on the tense situation around Afghanistan which is created as a result of the interference of world imperialism and international reaction, which not only threaten peace and security in the region but throughout the world. They express gratitude for the UN efforts aimed at peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

Representing the people of the DRA, the participants of the function elucidated that the righteous struggle of the people of Afghanistan for attaining peace in the country is a part of the struggle of the peoples of all continents for attaining peace. The people of Afghanistan invoke all peace loving forces of the world, first and foremost the UNO, for advocating the peace issue in Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan are in the same proportion ready to participate in the struggle of the world public for ensuring world peace, terminating nuclear tests, stopping of arms race, complete disarmament, the delivering of humanity and its civilisation from the menace of nuclear catastrophe, and to place international relations on the basis of justice, good will, mutual understanding and cooperation among all countries and peoples.

The participants of the function pointed out in this connection that the immediate implementation of the Soviet peace proposals and initiatives reflected in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU dated January 15, 1986, will provide real and practical means for the elimination of disastrous danger of nuclear war. They have also opened bright horizons for the great and broad world movement for peace.

The participants of the function, while warmly welcoming the peaceable activities of the UNO for the elimination of the danger of nuclear war, consolidation and development of relations between the countries of the world on the basis of the principles of peace and peaceful co-existence, are fully confident that the valuable resolutions of the UN on disarmament and the anouncement of 1986 as the international year of peace can play a significant part for the stopping of arms race on earth and preventing its spread into the outer space, consolidation and ensuring of international peace and security as the most basic and pressing task of the UNO.

The participants of the function once again insist that the Association of Cooperation With the UN in Afghanistan, which has been set up on the will and wish of the people of Afghanistan as an ally of the UN will embark upon the dissemination of the aims, principles, gains and constructive activities of the UN. Parallel to the UNO and other peaceloving forces in the world, it will endeavour for creating mutual understanding, consolidation of friendship between the world peoples without any discrimination on the basis of the principle of peaceful coexistence, expansion of economic development, social progresses, improvement of the living conditions of the people, preservation and consolidation of world peace, the imperative requirement of the era.

AFP: Rebels Attack Soviet Bases in Kabul
BK2513?8 Hong Kong AFP in English 1322 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, March 25 (AFP) — Afghan rebels fired rockets at Soviet military bases in Kabul last week, when the country marked Afghan new year, western diplomats said here today.

Quoting an excellent source, they said at least 14 rockets exploded in or around the major Darul Aman base. The diplomats had no casualty or damage reports, but they said a Russian source had confirmed that six rockets fell inside the embassy. The Soviet source said there was no damage.

Quoting a separate source, the diplomats reported considerable firing at Darul Aman and the nearby Kargan base, with Soviet and Afghan artillery responding to the rebels rockets.

The diplomats said the spate of rocket attacks, and an unusual, though brief, day-time gun-battle outside the capital drew a thorough Soviet house-to-house search of at least four Kabul localities, with a pair of helicopters providing cover to the security forces.

Meanwhile in the strategic Panjshir valley, the diplomats said, the mujahidin made unsuccessful attacks on four Soviet-Afghan outposts, drawing a tough response.

They said the situation in southern Qandahar Province remained bad, with markets closing around noon and residents facing food and medicine shortages.

On the political front, President Babrak Karmal renewed in his new year message an amnesty for Afghan exiles returning home and offered to exempt peasants from penalties on non-payment of taxes.

The remission would cost the government 18 million dollars in lost revenue from 760,000 peasant families, and the diplomats said the measure showed up the regime's inability to enforce land taxes in the troubled countryside.

In his message the Afghan leader also confirmed that Kabul has supplied United Nations envoy Diego Cordovez with a timetable for a phased withdrawal of Soviet troops, but alleged that the United States was not interested in a political settlement of the Afghan crisis.

Gandhi 'Under Pressure' To Send Army Into Punjab

HK250824 Hong Kong AFP in English 0817 GMT 25 Mar 86

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, March 25 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is under pressure to send army troops into Punjab after renewed violence in the Sikh-dominated state left some 20 people dead in the past week, reliable sources said Tuesday.

Last week the 41-year-old premier ordered 3,000 more federal paramilitary troops into the state where a section of India's 16 million Sikhs have renewed a violent campaign for secession.

They joined the 18,600 already in the state, as well as the state's 40,000 policemen. This did not improve the situation, one area expert said. "The only answer is the army," he said.

The sources said the premier's own Congress (I) partymen in the state bordering Pakistan have requested troops to quell the bloodshed that has risen gradually since the federal government and moderate Sikhs signed an agreement last July to end the moderates' autonomy movement.

The militants rejected the agreement.

In gun battles between militants and security forces Monday, at least nine people were killed, prompting analysts here to say that Mr Gandhi could not continue to bid for time hoping the sitaution would improve.

"It is now or never situation... the militants have been given to believe that they can carry on their orgy of violence with impunity... unless something drastic is done, Mr Gandhi will lose face soon," said the expert, who asked not to be named.

The *HINDUSTAN TIMES* Tuesday quoted Ashwani Sikri, a Congress (I) deputy from Punjab, as saying Monday that he had urged Mr Gandhi by telephone to rush troops to halt "rule of the jungle." He said Mr Gandhi responded by requesting that urging be put in writing with all back-up details.

Mr Sikri said the premier had assured him of all steps to check attacks on Hindus — India's religious majority, but a minority in Punjab. The latest attacks have targeted Hindus, who were systematically shot by suspected Sikh separatists. "The situation in Batala town is alarming," Mr Sikri, who represents the constituency in the state assembly, told the *TIMES*.

Some 20,000 Sikh villagers had encircled the Hindu-dominated 100,000 population town for eight days, blocking movement of food supplies. The siege was partly lifted Monday after paramilitary troops arrived in double strength.

The Prime Minister's spokesman here was not available for comment Tuesday.

Observers said the army traditionally has commanded more respect than the paramilitary and tends to have a more sobering effect with its presence.

Analysts here have compared the recent bloody episodes with those of the months that led up to then-premier Indira Gandhi's ordering of troops to roust militants from the Sikh's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

Some 650 people, mostly Sikhs and including militant leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, died in the June 1984 operation. Several thousand alleged militants or sympathisers were arrested.

Mrs Gandhi, the current premier's mother, was killed five months later.

The assault had crushed the militants' leadership, but alleged militant Sikh prisoners were released after the moderate Sikh Akali Dal Party government came to power late last year.

Their release, under a government "forgive and forget" policy, apparently has backfired, an observer said.

A PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency report from Punjab Tuesday said four out of nine people killed in the state Monday were identified as militants.

Among the total killed in the past week were Hindu government employees and trades and Sikh policemen.

The turbaned Sikhs began their autonomy campaign in 1980. It was restricted to street demonstrations and stray killings for three years until Mr Bhindranwale emerged to begin a bloodier campaign.

Parliament Debates Foreign Ministry Grant Demands

Tension in Neighboring States Viewed

BK240855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] In the Lok Sabha today members from both sides expressed concern over the growing tensions in the neighboring countries and interference by superpowers. They were participating in the resumed debate on the demands of grants of the External Affairs Ministry.

An opposition member said that a thorough review of the whole gamut of our relations with Sri Lanka and Pakistan is needed in view of the developments in the two countries. He demanded that concrete steps should be taken to find a solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

A ruling party member said the presence of U.S. fleet at the Pakistan shore has added a new dimension to our relations with that country. He said imperialist forces are plotting subversive activities within the country and are posing a threat to world security.

Bhagat Explains Government Stand

BK241635 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has said the Sri Lankan Government must stop killings of innocent civilians in the island. He said this is necessary to create a conducive atmosphere to arrive at a political solution to the ethnic problem. Replying to the debate on the demands of grants of his ministry in the Lok Sabha today, the minister said the Sri Lankan Government must restrain its security forces and cease-fire should be maintained from both sides. He said as long as the killing of innocent civilians continues in the island, there cannot be any political talks. He reiterated that there cannot be a military solution to the problem.

Mr Bhagat said the Sri Lanka Government must be prepared to talk with the Tamils directly across the table. The legitimate demands of the Tamils in the island must be met.

Referring to Pakistan, Mr Bhagat said despite contradictions in that country's policies, India has been pursuing the Simla agreement in letter and spirit and working for a durable peace with Pakistan. He said the government is aware that all the nuclear programs of Pakistan are not meant for peaceful purposes.

Pointing out that India is fully aware of the growing nexus between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the minister said that the problem arises because of involvement of major outside powers in the region.

Mr Bhagat said the Indian Ocean has become not a zone of peace, but a zone of conflict.

The minister assured the house that India's foreign policy has not deviated from any of its basic principles. The country's foreign policy is based on nonalignement and the pursuit of peace and disarmament.

Earlier, members from all sides expressed grave concern over the situation Sri Lanka and the growing nexus among neighboring countries. They urged the government to take positive steps and new initiatives to resolve the ethnic problem and end the killings of Tamils in Sri Lanka.

The opposition members were critical of the government for not being successful in its diplomatic efforts on the Sri Lanka issue. Some ruling party members suggested sending a parliamentary team to foreign countries for creating public opinion to pressurize the Sri Lanka Government to respect human rights. They referred to the Sri Lanka and Pakistan nexus and the role of big powers in the Indian Ocean region. They particularly mentioned the recent visit of the U.S. fleet to Karachi port and the step up in the defense budget of Sri Lanka for procuring weapons to continue violence against Tamils.

The house later passed the demands for grants of the External Affairs Ministry.

Bhagat Discusses Position on Indian Ocean

BK211406 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, has reiterated that India will resist the attempts of some countries which are trying to distort the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace by terming it as the regional disarmament measure. Inaugurating a seminar in New Delhi today, he said India is trying to ensure that the 1971 declaration is not (?diluted).

Referring to the U.S. decision to stockpile nuclear arms in Diego Garcia, Mr Bhagat cautioned that it will have an ominous portent for the future.

Describing the Indian Ocean as an arena of great power rivalry, Mr Bhagat clarified that India is opposed to the attempts of some countries to confuse the UN declaration with a nuclear-weapon-free zone proposal.

Sri Lankan Refugees Not Prevented From Returning

BK211614 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] India has denied that Sri Lankan refugees are being prevented from returning to their country. A government spokesman told newsmen in reply to the questions in New Delhi today that there is no basis for press reports that a substantial number of Sri Lankan refugees who wished to go back were prevented from doing so. He said according to information available with the government, few Sri Lankan refugees have left their camps. Government of India would welcome creation of conditions in Sri Lanka which would enable the refugees now in India to return home in safely and with dignity. There are about 125,000 Sri Lankan refugees in India at present.

Punjab Chief Minister Reports on 'Extremist Crime'

BK241636 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister has said that 14 cases of extremist crime in the state have been reported in the last 1 week in which 8 persons were killed. Making a statement on the law and order situation in the state assembly today, he said cases in this respect have been registered and vigorous investigations launched.

Mr Barnala said the state government has taken effective steps to reorganize deployment of the police and paramilitary forces with a view to effectively checking the extremist crime in the state. A sector scheme for intensive round the clock patrolling has already been introduced in the districts of Ferozepore, Amritsar, Gurdaspur, and Kapurtala. He said the scheme is being extended to some other areas of the state.

All the Congress-I, Bharatiya Janata Party, and the CPI members of the state assembly sat on dharna [sit in] in the (?middle) of the house in protest against the continuing law and order problem, particularly in Batala. The dharna started immediately

after the chief minister made the statement on the law and order situation and the speaker not allowing [as heard] the opposition members to ask questions on the statement.

Earlier, the house passed the appropriation bill pertaining to the budget presented on the 10th of this month.

Further Incidents of Violence in Punjab

BK250329 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, eight persons, including two terrorists, were killed and one injured in three incidents of violence in Amritsar and Jullundur Districts last night. An official spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent this morning that 12 terrorists ambushed a patrolling party of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] in a village near (Katu Nangal) in Amritsar District. In the exchange of fire that followed, two CRPF personnel and two terrorists were killed. The terrorists while fleeing left behind one sten gun and two foriegn-made revolvers but took away one rifle of the killed CRPF jawan [personnel].

In another incident in Amritsar District, two assistant station masters were shot dead by some unidentified gunmen at (Golbarh) railway station on the Amritsar-Tarn Taran railway line.

In the third incident, two persons were shot dead and one injured by two sten gun-wielding terrorists in Jullundur City. The victims were sitting in their shop at the time of the attack. The city administration, as a precautionary measure, extended the curfew to some more parts of the city following the incident. The curfew imposed there will continue till tomorrow morning.

Ziaul Haq Interviewed on Domestic, Foreign Issues

GF201344 Lahore JANG in Urdu 15 Mar 86 p 1, 8

[Article by *JANG* correspondent]

[Text] Dubayy — Palestinians should obtain the support of Jordan. This was said by President General Ziaul Haq in an exclusive interview with English and Arabic papers in Abu Dhabi. He said that Pakistan supports the PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat but it is wrong to say that Israel does not exist. He said that the PLO should accept UN Resolution No 242. He stressed that Israel should accept the PLO as the sole legal representative of the Palestinian people and should be prepared to hold talks with it, keeping this fact in mind.

Expressing his view on relations between Islamic countries he said: We have the ICO although it has not been able to do anything in particular so far. On the Iran-Iraq war he said: If Iran gets the desired quantity of defense material then there will be extraordinary instability in the Gulf region. He said that Pakistan had been making new efforts for peace until about a fortnight ago but there has been no positive result. He said Iran holds extremist views regarding the removal of President Saddam Husayn of Iraq. Moreover, Iran wants to punish Iraq for the loss of $250 billion. At first Iran insisted that Iraq should pay this amount without the aid of any Arab country but later withdrew this condition. President Ziaul Haq said that Iran's attitude showed Iran's inflexibility.

On the question of relations with India he said that he has met Rajiv Gandhi 6 times during his 17 months in office and that there has been some positive progress in these meetings. In relation to the cancellation of Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Paksitan, President Ziaul Haq said: There has been no official announcement about the cancellation of the visit but Pakistan will continue its efforts to improve relations with India.

On the local situation in Pakistan he said: If the opposition respected the rules and regulations, then all parties would be allowed to participate in the democratic process in the country. He advised the political parties to abide by the rules and regulations of registration. He said that opposition outside the assemblies was illegal and the Pakistani people do not accept it. He criticised the opposition working outside the country also and said that they have no knowledge of the events in Pakistan and some are being influenced by Indian experiences and perceptions.

He added that the parties in Pakistan have no clear programs.

He said that the views of the Western mass media on instability in Baluchistan were baseless. We have succeeded in improving living conditions in Baluchistan, he said. Baluchistan is one of the most stable regions, he added.

On Pakistan's nuclear program he said: Pakistan has made considerable progress in nuclear technology but in any case the Pakistani nuclear program is totally peaceful. He added that Pakistan has been able to enrich uranium and that this achievement has been made by only five other countries. On the matter of propaganda against the Islamic bomb he said: Why do they not call the Soviet bomb a communist bomb, why do they not call the American bomb a Christian bomb, why do people not talk of a Hindu bomb? He said: It is our right to have technology and we will get it despite the hostile propaganda.

Indian Leaders Send Messages on National Day

BK250244 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In a message to the president [on the occasion of Pakistan's national day], Indian President Giani Zail Singh has expressed confidence that India-Pakistan relations will continue to grow with mutual understanding and for mutual benefit in the spirit of the Simla agreement.

In similar messages to the president and the prime minister, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressed his country's willingness to continue to work for cordial and constructive relations between the two countries in the spirit of the Simla agreement.

5 Killed in Afghan Attack on Refugee Camp

NC231848 Paris AFP in English 1840 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, March 23 (AFP) — Five people, four of them Afghan refugees, were killed when Afghan helicopters launched a rocket attack on a refugee camp in Pakistani territory on Saturday, reports reaching here on Sunday said. Residents reported that Soviet-supplied helicopters penetrated into the Parachinar region bordering the troubled Afghan province of Paktia and fired about a dozen rockets killing five people and wounding eleven. The attack was the second this week on Matta Sanga camp. A similar raid on Friday reportedly left three Afghan refugees dead and two wounded.

Afghan Mujahidin Shoot Down Helicopter in Qandahar

BK250816 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have shot down a Soviet-Karmal helicopter gunship in Qandahar. The pilot and four military personnel on board the helicopter were killed on the spot. Meanwhile, Kabul Radio has confirmed that the Soviet-Karmal forces have suffered heavy losses in mujahidin operations in Paktia and Nangarhar Provinces.

Destroy Military Posts in Paktia

BK250625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin reportedly attacked Soviet-Karmal military troops in Herat Province, damaging a number of tanks and armored personnel carriers whose crew members were killed on the spot. According to another report, the mujahidin destroyed two military posts at Aqa Kalay in Paktia Province. The Soviet-Karmal forces had set up a military camp there.

SRI LANKA

Premadasa Says Terrorists Want Dictatorship

BK211103 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Premadasa told the parliament yesterday that the aim of the terrorists was to establish dictatorship covering the entire island under pretext of being socialist. Winding up the debate on the extension of the state of emergency, Mr Premadasa said that the terrorists were launching a fourfold program to achieve their goal. This included the publicity campaign, an ethnic problem, the training of terrorists — locally and and in India — the collection of money and the demand for increased wages and the organizing of strikes. Certain Sinhalese traders were supporting them. The terrorists also attempted to create disturbance in the estate sector. But, the prime minister said, they could not achieve their goal because the government solved the problem of the stateless persons.

The prime minister said that the terrorists had even ignored the directions of the Indian Government. He pointed out that the Indian Government would have to face the charge that it is harboring the northern terrorists.

Mr Premadasa said that although the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] is claiming that they could solve the ethnic problem, they do not say how they propose to do so. The SLFP, he said, is of the view that the terrorism should be wiped out setting development work aside, but they charged the government again that the development work had been disrupted. They also demand increased wages for employees.

Minister Notes Allocation of Funds To Fight Tamils

HK220714 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Colombo, March 22 (AFP) — Sri Lanka has allocated an extra 100 million dollars for defence spending this year to help combat militant Tamil separatists, Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel said Saturday.

The extra 2.5 billion rupees (100 million dollars), bringing the defence budget for the financial year which began in January to a record 8.7 billion rupees (348 million dollars), was agreed this week [as received] to meet the needs of the security forces fighting the militants, who are demanding an independent state in the north and east, Mr de Mel told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Security Ministry had asked for an extra 3.5 billion rupees — a more than 50 percent increase on the original 6.2 billion allocated for the 1986 budget — but was given 2.5 billion.

The money will be found by cutting development expenditure, Mr de Mel said, and this was already being studied by officials.

Officials were also trying to find ways to cut back capital expenditure in next year's budget, a move which would become inevitable unless an early solution was found to the Tamil problem, Mr de Mel added.

Informed sources said the additional funds would be used to buy naval patrol craft and helicopters to strengthen surveillance in the northern waters across which militants ferry men and arms from southern India.

Helicopters are also needed to enhance air power and move troops quickly to trouble spots, the sources said.

The 8.7 billion rupees now allocated for defence spending account for 12 percent of a total budget of 66 billion rupees for the year, and 22 percent of domestic budget resources, Mr de Mel said.

Security Forces Kill 15 in Vavuniya 19-20 Mar

BK201603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 15 persons, including 1 woman, have been shot dead by the security forces during a search operation in Nedunkeni near Vavuniya. The security operations, which reportedly started in the area last night, continued up to 1000 this morning. Three persons have been injured and 14 taken into custody. According to a complaint lodged by the chairman of the Nedunkeni Grama Udaya Mandala [village resurgence group] with the civil authorities (?in) Vavuniya, all those killed are cultivators or shopkeepers of the area. The army men reportedly came in one jeep, two armored cars, and six tractors and removed seven dead bodies. There have also been complaints of largescale looting. There is no official statement on the incident.

Security Forces Raid Terrorist Camp in Mullaitivu

BK221104 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Security forces on a routine patrol came across a terrorist training camp at (Anandapuram Kudukudu Rippu), 10 miles north of Mullaitivu yesterday. According to the national news agency LANKA PUWATH, on seeing the security forces the terrorists fired mortars and small arms. The troops overpowered the attackers and killed a leader of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, [Words indistinct] and seven others, including a female. On searching the place they found a terrorist camp in a large house. The security forces recovered 6 mortars, 18 shells, a 3-inch mortar, one (?improvised) explosive device, [words indistinct], 47 rifles, and some other items. There were no casualties among the troops.

10 Killed, 50 Injured in Jaffna, Mullaitivu

BK211624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 10 persons were killed and over 50 injured today in 2 districts of Jaffna and Mullaitivu in the northern peninsula. In Jaffna town a 25-year-old woman and a 2-year-old girl were killed and 35 others injured when army fired mortar shells. In Mullaitivu District, eight persons, described by the Defense Ministry spokesman as militants, were killed this morning at a place about 14 km northwest of the district camp.

Reportage on U.S.-Libyan Confrontation

Tehran Notes U.S. 'Attack'

GF250558 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Libyan television yesterday announced that following the U.S. violation of airspace over the Gulf of Sidra and the bombing of the costal town of Surt, 160 km east of Tripoli, Libyan ground-to-air antiaircraft defenses shot down three American jet fighters.

According to the Central News Unit, Libyan television last night interrupted its normal programs and its announcer said: Brothers and sisters, we have just learned that the U.S. Air Force this morning, Monday, started its violation of Libyan airspace over Libyan waters in the Gulf of Sidra. Our antiair defenses have countered this move, shooting down three American planes.

The Libyan television announcer added: Two U.S. jets were downed yesterday at noon and another was downed last night.

In the meantime, Larry Speakes, the U.S. Government spokesman [as heard], announced: The jet fighters of the U.S. 6th Fleet yesterday attacked a Libyan warship in the Gulf of Sidra and also the sites of the ground-to-air SAM missiles deployed near the town of Surt on the Libyan coast.

According to UPI, Speakes added: These attacks were in retaliation for the Libyan firing of six antiair missiles toward U.S. planes which are part of the fleet deployed in the northern section of the Gulf of Sidra.

The U.S. Government spokesman by making this statement formally admitted the aggression of the U.S. fleet against Libyan territorial waters and the attack against a Libyan port.

Musavi Reiterates Support

LD250723 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi Tuesday reiterated Iran's full support for Libya and added that the Islamic Republic of Iran will strongly confront any plot by international arrogance against Libya.

In an interview with IRNA here Tuesday morning, the prime minister said that U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra was a flagrant violation against territorial integrity of an Islamic country and, therefore, is considered as an aggression against all Islamic states.

Referring to the Libyan downing of three U.S. fighter planes, Musavi said that this was a natural reaction by Libya towards U.S. conspiracies.

"We believe that each blow by the aggressive imperialist powers should be responded strongly. The U.S. should know that nations have become vigilant and the time for its domination in the world has come to its end," the prime minister said.

He added that Muslim nations would no longer permit the U.S. to continue its aggressive policies, stressing that the U.S. should consider the consequences of its threats.

He stressed that in the light of a firm resistance by the Libyans, the U.S. "cannot do a damn thing".

The prime minister added that the U.S. aggression against Libya would cause difficulties for the U.S. reactionary allies who had so far tried to conceal their collaboration with the U.S. in reducing oil prices.

Musavi said that these reactionary states should either take a clear stance against the U.S. or suffer more disgrace before the great Islamic and Arab nations.

President Meets With Top Military Commanders

LD211748 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 21, IRNA — Iran's president and head of the Supreme Defensee Council Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i said here Friday that if Iranian Muslim combatants did not win the war the war mongering of the Iraqi regime would not come to its end.

In a meeting with top Iranian army commanders here Friday, the president described the Iraqi puppet regime as a "weak point" in the Persian Gulf region which could easily be used by the oppressive powers.

The president further congratulated the Armed Forces personnel on the new year and lauded their crucial role in the recent Iranian victories in the Val-Fajr-8 offensive launched in Iraq's Al-Faw peninsula on February 9th.

On the self-sufficiency efforts of the Iranian Army, the president said that the Army had fortunately taken long strides in this regard, noting that the speed of this effort should be accelerated.

The joint staff chief, the commanders of the Navy, Ground and Air Forces as well as the imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council Gen. Zahirnezhad were present at the meeting which took place on the occasion of the Iranian new year.

Aqazadeh Interviewed on Geneva OPEC Talks

LD211413 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Interview with Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh by unidentified reporter of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Geneva; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Your Excellency Mr Aqazadeh, as you are aware, 5 days have now passed since the start of the 77th OPEC conference convened in Geneva. How do you assess the trend of these negotiations?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. During the length of OPEC's history, it can be said that this

session is one of the more difficult and problematic OPEC sessions. During the past 5 days, noting the extreme drop in oil prices, there have been many discussions. Up to today, some aspects of the question have been well covered and others have not yet made any progress. The main issue on which we all agreed is that OPEC intends to return prices to their former level. Discussion is also continuing on the quotas for each member and on the manner of their cooperation with non-OPEC producers.

[Reporter] One of the chief problems facing OPEC at the prsent moment is the disruption of the oil market. Could you please explain what elements contributed to bring about this disruption of the oil market, and generally, what was the motivation behind this market disruption?

[Aqazadeh] During the 5 days we participated in the session, we discussed this issue and discovered that there were two main objectives (?being pursued) within OPEC. The first and primary aim is that they [as heard] may be able to weaken Iran's economic power and use this to weaken us and drag us to negotiate about peace. Second, an aim that is a subsidiary of the first but is beneficial to the Western world and the United States, is that they may, with this drop in oil prices, be able to compensate for their decrease in revenues, increase their production, and solve their unemployment problems. Part of this course is that they want to flood the market with a lot of oil and create psychologically, even the [words indistinct] and bring down the price of oil by $5 at a time. They want to bring matters to the point where oil will lose the value that it had in the world as a commodity, and will have a price level of $11-12. In this way the elements that are assisting them are those who, within OPEC — through various covert agreements and by pouring a lot of oil in the market — are helping this process; there are also some among the non-OPEC producers, led by Britain, that assist them by creating a psychological climate and also pouring oil in the market.

[Reporter] In confronting these elements inside OPEC, what form should this struggle take?

[Aqazadeh] When we participate in OPEC, we expound the Islamic Republic's project in this way: By bringing down production prices should increase; some control over production should be brought about and serious talks must be conducted with non-OPEC oil producers. These and other proposals have been put forward for discussion among OPEC members. Some of them are being followed up well in these dicussions. The point that OPEC is intent on restoring its price levels is something that the majority of members support and declare.

In connection with cooperation with non-OPEC producers, we are talking seriously and frankly with them, and we have asked them to restore prices to their original levels and to lower some of their production.

In connection with the way production will be lowered among OPEC members, discussion is continuing; a lot of problems exist on this issue.

In connection with the control of production, the difficulty is how to decide on the volume of production, and our last discussion will concern control of production, which I do not think will create too many problems. The essence of the issue lies in the manner of the reduction of production by OPEC itself. I hope that in the coming days the question of lowering our production will be resolved.

Defense Minister Warns Iraq of Retaliation

LD211754 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbaijan Prov., March 21, IRNA — Defence Minister Colonel Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali said here Thursday that if the Iraqi regime continued its attacks on Iranian non-military areas the Muslim combatants will definitely retaliate.

The defence minister who arrived here Thursday on an inspection tour of the region told IRNA that the Islamic Republic of Iran was not fighting with the Iraqi people, but was rather trying to rid them of their ruling Ba'thist regime.

Referring to high morale of Iranian Muslim combatants in the battlefields, the defence minister said that the recent victories of the Islamic Forces was Iranian forces' new-year gift for their nation.

During his inspection Colonel Jalali is to talk with Iranian combatants in the region.

Italy Asked To Ban Mojahedin-e Khalq Activities

LD250904 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Rome, March 25, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador to Rome, in a meeting here Monday with the Italian minister of interior, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, presented documents on terrorist activities of Munafiqeen (MKO) [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Italy and urged him to ban the activities of the splinter group.

Scalfaro promised the Iranian diplomat that his ministry will take necessary measures to end the activities of Munafiqeen and that of their sympathisers in Italy and described them dangerous for the Italy's security.

Documents submitted included list of the victims of the Munafiqeen including women and children. Members of the group abroad, the Iranian official added, were funded by the Iraqi regime and the group functioned as the fifth column of the Iraqi regime.

The Italian interior minister said that the documents showed that the group was indulged in terrorist acts which were illegal.

Foreign Ministry Official Leads Delegation to Lebanon

LD241340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The political director general of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of our country is heading a delegation which arrived yesterday in Tripoli, Lebanon to participate in the ceremonies marking

the 40th day of the martyrdom of Khalil Akawi, one of the activists of the Islamic Tawhid Movement. Before taking part in these ceremonies, the political director general of our country's Foreign Ministry, met with Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, the leader of the Islamic Tawhid Movement, and a delegation from Beirut's ulema. They discussed the question of strengthening the Islamic movement and expanding the anti-Zionist front all over Lebanon. The delegation from our country yesterday also met with Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, and discussed topics of mutual interest.

Kurdish Peshmerga's Battle Successes in Iraq Noted
LD201858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] According to a report received from the north of Iraq, the Kurdish Muslim Iraqi peshmerga last week, in the district of (Sangab) in Iraq, 50 km to the south of the oil bearing province of Kirkuk, conducted a series of extensive operations killing 50 Saddamist troops and capturing more than 30. They also managed to capture Farid 'Aziz Mak, the governor of the district. Also during these operations an appreciable amount of weapons fell into the hands of the Kurdish Muslim Iraqi peshmarga as booty and three ammunition dumps were destroyed.

According to the same report, the forces of the army of the Zionist regime of Iraq, who are powerless and unable to directly confront the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries, fired from helicopters on the defenseless inhabitants of the villages of the Gapilon region which is situated in the liberated areas a few kilometers from Al-Sulaymaniyah in Iraq. As a consequence of this attack several people, including two women villagers, were killed and a number of others were injured.

According to another report from northern Iraq, as a resut of the explosion of mines placed on the (Sayyid Khan) road by the Hezbollah peshmerga of Iraq, one (?supply) vehicle of the enemy was destroyed and at least eight Ba'thist troops were killed and wounded. Also in the same region, the Hezbollah peshmerga destroyed completely an 81 mm mortar and an enemy outpost 5 km from the district of (Sayyid Khan) and a number of enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

TV Shows Surrender of Iraqi Soldiers in Al-Faw
LD231339 Tehran IRNA in English 1320 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 23, IRNA — The television of the Islamic Republic of Iran showed Saturday night a film of Iraqi forces surrendering to Muslim combatants of Iran while wading through swamps of Al-Faw, southern Iraq.

A group of Iraqi troops were seen sunk in mud, stripped to their waist and with no weapons.

Iraqi soldiers were said to have covered several kilometers hiding from their commanders in order to surrender to Iran's Muslim forces.

The Muslim combatants warmly received the Iraqi soldiers and treated the wounded ones.

Observers here said Iraq's Ba'thist forces have no motive for fighting against the Islamic Republic and the Iraqi Army commanders are deprived of any power to advance.

Following the liberation of Al-Faw, tens of Iraqi counteroffensives have so far faced harsh defeats in liberated areas.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Issues Communique No 26
LD241833 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Communique No 26 issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters for joint operations of the Islamic Resolution Guard Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. By the dawn and the 10 nights. The blasphemy-fighting heroes of the army of Islam continue to attack the heart of enemy positions, dealing deadly blows to the rotten corps of the Ba'thist and Zionist mercenaries ruling over Baghdad. The heroes have made the new year the start of their final victory over the defeated enemy by their legendary actions in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational area.

O you courageous nation of Islam, the combative and brave nation of Iran, your heroic children, these true defenders of the Islamic revolution, have expressed their messages of congratulation on the blessed birth anniversary of the esteemed and brave commander of the army of Muhammad, peace be upon them, the lord of the virtuous, 'Ali, peace be upon him. They have done this by killing more enemy soldiers and successfully completing a heavy confrontation in the northern section of the "Val-Fajr-8" operational area; they killed or captured hundreds of enemy forces by the virtue of their alertness and unprecedented courage. God-seeking, selfless soldiers of the army of monotheism took part in a heavy battle along the Al-Bihar-Basra road, next to that region's huge palm groves. Our forces succeeded in completely annihilating the 704th Independent Infantry Brigade of the weakening Iraqi Armed Forces and thus killed a large number of the forces of Saddam's criminal regime. A number of enemy soldiers were captured and transfered behind the lines.

The brave heroes of Islam made use of special modern military tactics during another heavy battle on the Al-Faw-Basrah axis and completely surrounded the 28th Infantry Brigade of the 8th Division of the defeated Iraqi Army, which had intended to launch an offensive. The brave heroes did this at the same time they were destroying the 704th Independent Infantry Brigade. At present, our forces are firing on all enemy equipment in the region and the mentioned brigade is on the brink of complete destruction.

Carrying out a series of special operations and using surprise, the ever-victorious forces of the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps succeeded in taking a number of enemy boats which had tried to move closer to the positions of the forces of

Islam in the Khawr 'Abdallah waters. They sent all these boats and their crews to the depths of the waters of Khawr 'Abdallah. Seek assistance from God and victory is nigh, glad tidings to the faithful.

[Signed] Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Buckley Reportedly 'Died in Tehran Hospital'
GF241704 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian
1330 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] According to the weekly magazine *LE POINT* published in Paris, the Persian Gulf countries plus Saudi Arabia have decided to repatriate 1.5 expatriate workers over the next 12 months. Palestinians and Lebanese Shi'ites are among the workers to be expelled.

This same magazine, quoting Western intelligence organizations, reports that William Buckley, the American hostage who was kidnapped by Lebanese Hizballah members and whose execution was reported by his kidnappers last year, died in a Tehran hospital.

In another report *LE POINT* states the Iranian Embassy in Paris has complained to the French Government through diplomatic channels that letters and parcel bombs mailed to the Islamic Republic's diplomats in Europe have been sent from Paris. The embassy has asked the French authorities to carry out the necessary investigations on this matter.

Radio Iran Carries Bakhtiar's New Year Message
GF210822 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian
0400 GMT 21 Mar 86

["Message" from Dr Shapur Bakhtiar, leader of the National Resistance Movement of Iran, on the occasion of the Iranian new year;20 March; place not given — recorded]

[Text] Dear compatriots. The festival of Nowruz cannot regain its befitting glory and brilliance during the reign of diabolical forces on our land. First of all, our enemies should be deracinated. Only then will the celebration of the auspicious Nowruz festival be appropriate. In future months your efforts and ours should be galvanized day by day. No compromises can be made as far as sacrifice for the deliverance of Iran. I am convinced that the world will soon realize that Iran can never die!

Kurdish Democratic Party Holds Congress Session
GF231354 London KEYHAN in Persian 6 Mar 86 p 5

[Excerpts] The Iran Kurdish Democratic Party again ratified the slogan "Down With the Islamic Republic of Iran Regime" in the resolution carried in its seventh congress session. The resolution also stated that it was correct for the party to withdraw from the National Resistance Council and that it was essential to support the foreign policy of the party leadership and to strengthen friendly relations with progressive parties and organizations worldwide, especially the socialist countries.

In issuing a statement concerning the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Kordestan, the Central Committee of the Kurdish Democratic Party indicated that it has now been 40 years since the founding of the autonomous Republic of Kordestan and that the republic was established because of the invasion of the allied forces in Iran and weakness of the central government. It was a time when the Soviet Union and other socialist forces had emerged victorious from World War II and had gained extraordinary influence at the international level.

Efforts have been made in the resolution to justify pulling the Soviet forces out of Azarbayjan. In this connection the statement adds that due to conditions in those days, the Soviet Union, which had just completed its involvement in World War II, did not consider it advisable to confront the United States, which then had a monopoly on atomic weapons. It was because of this that it played only a spectator's role and did not support the democratic faction and the democratic party.

In conclusion, the statement criticizes the central Government of Iran and the deteriorating Khomeyni regime and considers the present the opportune time for an armed conflict to topple the Khomeyni regime.

Commentary on USSR Position in Afghanistan
GF231645 Tehran International Service in Turkish
1830 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary: "The UN Representative's Visit Related to the Question of Afghanistan"]

[Text] Dear listeners, the number of reports concerning the resistance of the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries has recently increased, compared to what it was in the past. The Afghan mujahidin continue to broaden the dimensions of their heroic struggle in [word indistinct], Herat, [word indistinct], Badghisat, and Qandahar, and in the mountains and fields — in short, in every corner of Islamic Afghanistan. However, while the Afghan mujahidin are stepping up their struggle designed to liberate their occupied country, we are observing the staging of diplomatic plots aimed at suppressing their just struggle.

Following the impasse reached during the sixth round of the Geneva talks, the UN representative dealing with the question of Afghanistan began his contacts over the past few days to have the talks resumed. Although the fourth and the fifth rounds of the talks failed to produce a result, [word indistinct] official contacts revealed that resolving the question of Afghanistan would be possible only following the withdrawal of the Soviet troops which entered Afghanistan in 1982. Regardless of the fact that the question of the Soviet Red Army's withdrawal from Afghanistan has not been finalized as yet, the regime ruling Afghanistan has raised this matter in its negotiations.

Of course the withdrawal of the communist Russian [as heard] troops from Afghanistan is only accepted on the condition that the ruling Marxist regime remains in power and is officially

recognized. In short, the conversion of the indirect talks into direct negotiations between the sides concerned.

The present proposal for direct talks in return for withdrawing the occupying communist troops from Afghanistan and the question of approving this demand is tantamount to surrendering to oppression and to a shameful state of affairs — not to mention the official recognition of a criminal regime trying to place its yoke on the Muslim people who are struggling with all their strength to secure their legitimate rights. This matter is currently being taken into consideration in an indirect way. Apart from this, the question as to whether the direct talks should start before or after the withdrawal of the occupying forces is still on the agenda.

Undoubtedly, the communist regime ruling in Afghanistan does not wish to fully implement the plan to withdraw the Soviet troops for the sake of continuing to exist. The initiative resorted to by the Babrak Karmal regime, which does not intend to jeopardize its existence, is designed to either halt the struggle of the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries or to divert them from their main objectives through various political conspiracies. Clear examples of this state of affairs can be observed in the history of the past struggles waged by Muslims and in the history of the Palestinian struggle, which, itself, is a [word indistinct] example.

All of these conspiracies are being realized with the help of a number of pro-Western puppets in Afghanistan who have no share in the Islamic struggle in that country. These conspiracies are being continued with the objective of usurping the rights of the Muslim people, who have been crushed under the pressures of infidel regimes in Afghanistan for years on end. Nevertheless, the main task of all Muslims is to follow the holy war of the Muslims of Afghanistan, which is gradually entering a more sensitive stage, and demonstrate great sensitivity in helping their Muslim brethren secure their rights. It is necessary to assess the plans recently put forward for reconciliation without forgetting that regardless of the crimes committed by the communist Russian troops during the past 6 years — troops which have destroyed and burnt the entire land of Afghanistan in order to occupy it and maintain their hegemony — the heroic struggle embarked upon by the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries to liberate their occupied lands has not stopped and attains more serious dimensions every day. During the past few years, the Muslims of Afghanistan have demonstrated what a faithful Muslim is to all of the infidels of the world by repulsing all attacks like a wall of steel. They have added another glorious page to the history of the resistance of the Muslims.

Correction to Khomeyni Speaks on War, Religion

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Khomeyni on War, Religion," published on page I 1 of the 24 March South Asia *DAILY REPORT*: Paragraph two, antepenultimate line should read: ...not an issue of Shi'ism, it is the... (supplying indistinct word)

paragraph three, antepenultimate line should read: ...this matter? We declare that we are... (confirming word)

paragraph four, line two should read: ...people who would not go to war, if there had been a war; even if they... (supplying correct words, rephrasing)

paragraph five, line two should read: ...the same time — although it did not make any difference — he told them... (supplying indistinct words)

same paragraph, line six and seven should read: ...people who said they were Muslims. These wars were... (confirming words)

same paragraph, penultimate line should read: ...the faithful, who fought all three wars against Muslims.

A Muslim who... (supplying correct words)

paragraph six, line three should read. ...prestige of Islam. It is essential that we should fight against him rather than against those who are... (supplying correct words)

same paragraph, line six should read: ...is another group, who — just suppose — come in order to annihilate the Islamic country and slap Islam in the face. Today, defense is incumbent on all of us. Everyone who can... (supplying correct words, rewording)

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 MARCH 1986

Libyan-U.S. Clash in Gulf of Sidra

Libya will continue its "brave opposition" to the United States and will consider any U.S. target as "hostile," the People's committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau told foreign ambassadors in a statement reported by JANA. The committee accused the United States of endangering peace and security by firing missiles "toward libyan territory and from inside Libyan territorial waters." Monitored Libyan media have provided no further details of the results of U.S. attacks except for JANA's claim, cited by Tripoli radio and television, that the rocket shelling of the suburbs of surt caused no damage. The television also broadcast Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's statement in a telephone conversation with the YAR president that Arab support for Libya shows that the Americans "cannot deal with every part of the Arab nation individually." One of Al-Qadhdhafi's close aides told a French radio station that "the entire Arab nation backs Libya" and that the U.S. "aggression" will result in reprisals against U.S. interests, either in the Arab world or elsewhere, according to AFP.

Meanwhile, the Arab League Council expressed "absolute backing" for Libya in a statement reported by KUNA, urging the Arab states to assist Libya to repel the U.S. attacks and calling on the United States to immediately cease all military operations against Libya. The foreign ministers also called for a UN Security Council meeting to discuss the grave situation in the Mediterranean. Among other expressions of Arab support for Libya, Moroccan King Hassan II declared "full solidarity" in a cable to Al-Qadhdhafi broadcast by Rabat radio, adding that Morocco will do "everything necessary" to help safeguard Libya's "integrity." An Algerian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Algiers radio likewise reaffirmed his country's support for Libya "in defense of the sanctity of its sovereignty" and denounced the U.S. use of force as "unacceptable." Syria confirmed its "complete solidarity" with Libya in an official statement carried by Damascus television, which also noted that Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to damascus with a reply message from Col al-Qadhdhafi for the Syrian president. Meanwhile, Al-Qadhdhafi discussed the Gulf of Sidra situation in a telephone conversation with Saudi King Fahd, Jeddah radio noted. The radio did not confirm Tripoli television's contention that Fahd expressed support for Libya. In another development, the Sudanese Army chief of staff stated Sudan's support for Libya against the U.S. "aggression" during a meeting with the Libyan Armed Forces commander in Tripoli, according to JANA. For Egypt's part, a Foreign Ministry statement carried by MENA expressed concern over the situation in the Gulf of Sidra, calling for self-restraint and an end to acts of violence.

As for the Palestinians, the PLO issued a statement in Tunis expressing "full solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people" in the face of the U.S. "imperialist onslaught," KUNA reported. An official spokesman for Sabri al-Banna's group, Fatah-the Revolutionary council, warned in a statement reported by JANA that his organization will henceforth target all American "imperialist interests" wherever they are.

In contrast, the Israeli Prime Minister's Office and Foreign Ministry welcomed the U.S. military action against Libya in announcements reported by IDF radio, which pointed out that the U.S. pilots' experience against SAM-5's will be of interest to Israel.

Lebanon

A booby-trapped car exploded in the al-Ashrafiyah area of east Beirut 26 March causing more than 30 casualties, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force carried out a "devastating" raid against Iran's Moshk camp early 26 March, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Earlier, the commander of Iran's Revolution Guards Corps called on Iranians to get more involved in the war effort, advising them to ignore "vast foreign propaganda for blunting mass fervor and dampening the public enthusiasm," according to IRNA. Tehran radio broadcast an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement accusing Iraq of renewed chemical weapons attacks in the Al-Faw area over the past 2 days and warning that unless the attacks are stopped, Iran will be "unwillingly forced to adopt other methods to defend itself and stop this dangerous act." In other developments, the Arab League Council in a statement reported by KUNA condemned Iran's occupation of Iraqi territory and expressed concern over "the Iranian threat to the security, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Arab Gulf states." The statement was issued "against Syrian and Libyan reservations," KUNA added.

Morocco-SDAR

Eight Moroccan soldiers were killed in two attacks by Polisario forces north of Amgala 20 March, Algiers radio reported, citing an SDAR Information Ministry Communique.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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CSSR Communist Party Holds 17th Congress

PDPA Sends Message

LD260619 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 25, BAKHTAR — The Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) has conveyed its best wishes for the success of the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in a message sent to the participants of the congress.

The message has also conveyed the warm greetings of the PDPA CC to all the members of the Communist Party of that country.

"The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan considers in high esteem the heroic struggles of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in the emancipation of their country from the yoke of Hitlerite facism and construction of a socialist society in Czechoslovakia", says the message.

Delegation Departs for Congress

LD231908 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications, left for Prague today at the invitation of Czechoslovakia's Communist Party Central Committee, as a head of the PDPA Central Committee delegation to participate in the work of the 17th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

Brigadier General Muhammad Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers; the vice chairman of the International Relations Department of the PDPA Central Committee; and the CSSR ambassador in Kabul were present at Kabul International Airport to see the delegation off.

Economic Cooperation Protocol Signed With USSR

LD240603 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 23, BAKHTAR — A protocol of cooperation was signed between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan at the meeting of the Afghan-Soviet Joint Permanent Economic Cooperation Commission held here.

On the basis of the protocol, the Soviet Union will render financial and technical assistance for sixty five development projects in the DRA in the fields of industries transport, mines, energy, agriculture, irrigation, foodstuffs, public health and social services.

The Soviet Union has increased its project assistance to the DRA for the current Afghan year by seventy percent compared to that of the last year ended March 20, 1986.

Assistance rendered by the Soviet Union in the preceding year included essential projects, such as the vehicle workshops of Kamaz and Jangalak factories in Kabul, gasoline tankers, extension and reconstruction of the first stage of Kabul International Airport, polyclinic and employees health insurance, materials testing laboratory, elevators of Mazar-e Sharif silo, and construction of 840 residential apartments for the Afghan people.

It is envisaged that the assistance of the Soviet Union to the projects of the DRA will increase to 80 percent of the total foreign aid.

Delegation Returns From Anti-Imperialist Meeting

LD250705 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0512 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 24, BAKHTAR — An Afghan delegation headed by Abdorrahim Hatef, president of the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front, NFF, returned home today after participating in the anti-imperialist conference of the national progressive movements and the creation of an anti-imperialism international united front held in Libya.

President of Afghan National Fatherland Front had meetings with the high authorities of Libyan Islamic Department and had fruitful talks on the possibility of cooperation with the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and trust properties of the DRA.

Abdorrahim Hatef during his visit signed a bilateral cooperation agreement with Libyan side. Under this agreement, the solidarity organizations of the DRA and those of Libya would render cooperation with each other.

Casualties Among Counterrevolutionaries Reported

LD250712 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 24, BAKHTAR — The turghi [Dari word for a type of bird] youths have exploded a tractor of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries by a mine in the Khurram region and the explosion has claimed the [words indistinct] counter-revolutionaries and their weapons were seized by the turghi youths, reports reaching here say.

The reports add that as a result of mine explosions taken place in different localities of Khurram region, 28 counter-revolutionaries have been killed, another 10 wounded and their transportation vehicles have been put out of action.

U.S., Pakistan Reportedly Sign Secret Military Deal

LD260031 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Mar 86

[BIA political commentary]

[Text] In order to modernize the military force of Pakitan, the Islamabad regime will receive over $4 billion from the United States on the basis of a new military agreement with the Washington administration for 1986-1993.

According to Pakistani media, this agreement was recently concluded in a secret session in Islamabad between William Schneider, assistant to the U.S. secretary of state, and Yasin

Khan Watto, minister of finance and economic affairs of Pakistan. The main outline of this agreement on a military deal has not yet been disclosed.

The Pakistani media long ago revealed the fact that the Islamabad regime will put Pakistani territory at the disposal of the United States in return for military assistance. Washington and Pakistan will play the gendarme role in crushing the national and progressive movement in the Asian region.

According to international reports, Pakistan is one of the major customers among the developing countries of modern weapons and military technology made in the United States. In the near future, with the assistance of the Washington administration, Pakistan will be transformed into one of the important manufacturers of military weapons among the developing countries. At this very moment, Pakistan, in addition to obtaining F-16 fighters capable of carrying atomic weapons is on the threshold of manufacturing nuclear weapons with U.S. assistance, like Israel and the racist regime of the South Africa, and will be able to manufacture five nuclear weapons annually.

The political observers time and again have emphasized that the CIA, after the fall of the shah's regime in Iran, has chosen Pakistan for its strategic objectives in the Gulf region and Southeast Asia.

The Pakistani politicians long ago warned of the results of the visits high-ranking representatives of the Washington administration, which have taken place during the recent years. The landing of 6,000 troops from the U.S. 7th Fleet in Karachi demonstrates the conclusion of a new military deal between Washington and Islamabad. It also explains that the Islamabad regime has transformed the Pakistani territory into an area for the destructive actions of U.S. imperialism and itself into an obedient slave. In this way Pakistan can more effectively play its role on the instruction of the Reagan administration — to create tension in the region and continue the imperialist war against the DRA.

Evidence testifies that the Washington administration, behind this generous military assistance to the Islamabad regime, is following crushing objectives vis-a-vis the national and progressive anti-imperialist movements, whether inside Pakistani territory or in the Gulf region and Southeast Asia.

The creation of tension on the borders of India and the continuation of the undeclared imperialist war against the DRA are examples.

The Washington regime, parallel with the military assistance to the Islamabad regime, is continuously increasing military assistance to Afghanistan's counterrevolutionaries nested in the Pakistani territory. In the current year alone, the Afghan counterrevolutionaries will receive $470 million in military assistance from the United States. If we compare these [word indistinct] military assitance of the Reagan administration to the Islamabad regime and to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with the hypocritical statement of R. Reagan in the United Nations General Assembly, alleging that his administration pays special attention to the solution of regional disputes, we can realize easily that Washington administration, in order to deceive world public opinion, says one thing but does another. The true fact is that the Washington administration does not want peace to dominate the world and people to live in peace and security. Hence, the Reagan administration is the cause of all calamity and flareups in the world and it must give an answer.

Celebrations Held for Independence Day

Ershad Issues Message

BK251619 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The independence and national day will be celebrated in the country with usual gaiety and festivity. In a message on the eve of the day, President Ershad has called for taking a renewed vow to rededicate ourselves to the task of materializing the dreams of martyrs. He said the price that the nation paid for our freedom is colossal and we owe to the blood of the martyrs to make the hard earned independence truly meaningful. He paid glowing tributes to the sacred memory of the martyrs who made supreme sacrifice for the independence.

The president said the country is now at the threshold of a new era and a new surge is discernable in all realms of national life. A new society is being textured as the vestiges of colonialism are being assiduously wiped out to propel into creativity the vast potentials of 10 crore people. He said the administration is now decentralized and judiciary brought to the reach of the common people. Industrialization has also gained momentum with the creation of congenial climate for investment.

In this context, the president pointed out that the nation can reap the benefit of these forward looking policies only in a persisting atmosphere of peace under a congenial political process. It is gratifying to note that the politics is now undergoing a positive transformation and a new dawn of democratic policy is heralding with the active participation of the masses. The nation is going to have an elected parliament very soon.

The president said Bangladesh now occupies an enviable position in the comity of nations. Its pioneering role in the formation of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation has opened new vistas of peace, stability, cooperation, and development in the region.

Government Releases 169 Prisoners

BK241718 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1705 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] The government has decided to release 169 detainees from custody on the occasion of independence and national day. They include persons detained under the Special Powers Act 1974 and under trial prisoners.

The government hopes that the concerned people will appreciate the gesture and contribute to the making of a happy and prosperous Bangladesh.

Ershad Reallocates Portfolios Among Ministers

BK241327 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
1230 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] President Ershad today reallocated the ministries among the existing members of the cabinet. The reallocation followed the resignations of the election-seeking ministers yesterday in fulfillment of the terms given by the president to pave the way the holding the Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] election. The reallocated portfolios of the existing ministers are:

Ministry of Communications, Port, Shipping and Inland Water Transport; Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development, and Flood Control; and Ministry of Post, Telecommunication: DCMLA [Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator] Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed

Ministry of Industry; Ministry of Commerce; and Ministry of Jute and Textiles: DCMLA Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud

Ministry of Law and Justice; Ministry of Education; and Ministry of Religious Affairs: Justice Nurul Islam

Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation; Ministry of Food; and Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock: Major General Abdul Mannan Siddiqui.

Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources; and Ministry of Works: Major General M.A. Munim

Ministry of Home Affairs; and Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development, and Cooperatives: Major General Mahmudal Hasan

Ministry of Social Welfare and Women's Affairs: Mrs Rabiya Bhuiya

Ministry of Youth and Sports; Ministry of Labor and Manpower; and Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reform: Zakir Khan Chowdhury

Mr M. Syeduzzaman will continue as adviser with the (?rank) and status of a minister and will hold the charge of Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning. The other ministries will remain under the president.

Opposition 'Far From Unanimous' on Elections

HK230934 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 23 Mar 86

[By Roushan Zaman]

[Text] Dhaka, March 23 (AFP) — Bangladesh's opposition groups were on Sunday still far from unanimous about whether to take part in a general election following military ruler President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's promise of concessions. The leader of the seven-party opposition alliance said on Sunday the group was still undecided about contesting the May 7 parliamentary elections.

And informed sources said the other alliance, grouping 15 parties, was split by the issue, although it said on Saturday it would take part on condition that Lieutentant General Ershad made good his offer of concessions.

Meanwhile, Lt Gen Ershad has already taken steps to fulfil his promise of concessions designed to encourage the opposition to contest the polls.

The opposition has previously refused to contest elections held under martial law rule.

But on Friday Lt Gen Ershad said he was willing to accede to opposition demands that the polling put back [as received], to dismantle martial law institutions and to form a new cabinet with a "neutral look."

He demanded that in return the opposition drop plans to boycott the polls.

Begum Khaleda Zia, leader of the seven-party alliance and its major component, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), told reporters after a series of meetings of leaders of Alliance partners and senior BNP officials late on Saturday: "We are not opposed to elections.

"But we don't want to participate in any election to legitimise an illegal military government."

Begum Zia described the government's election initiatives as "an arranged game" and said those who committed themselves to taking part without a guarantee that the polling would be free ignored the people's interests.

In what observers said was an oblique reference to the 15-party alliance, Begum Zia said: "Whoever goes to join the arranged games under this regime will be ultimately identified as the national traitors."

Begum Zia said the 15-party alliance had not informed the leadership of her seven-party group about its decision to contest the elections, despite the fact that the two alliances had a joint liaison committee.

Asked if her alliance had taken any definitive decision about taking part in the polls, she replied: "Such a decision cannot be taken overnight. We have to talk with the component parties and different professional groups on the issue before we can come up with a firm stand."

The BNP chief said the "successful and spontaneous observance" of Saturday's dawn-to-dusk general strike, called in protest against elections being held under martial law rule, indicated that people had no confidence in Lt Gen Ershad's regime.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed, leader of the 15-party alliance and its major partner, the Awami League, said she regarded the forthcoming election as a challenge to be faced to advance the people's movement against the military regime.

She expressed in a written statement the hope that the people would prove that "ballot is more powerful than bullet."

However, informed sources told reporters that the 15-party alliance faced a major crisis because at least five minor partners opposed participation in the elections.

In line with Lt Gen Ershad's promised concessions, the election commission on Saturday shifted polling day from April 26 to May 7, and the government announced the scrapping of the martial law offices and courts.

An aide at the presidential palace told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that a "farewell cabinet meeting" was to be held on Sunday, at which at least 19 ministers seeking election in the forthcoming elections would resign.

He said the president was expected to reconstitute his council of ministers to give it a neutral look during the election period.

Series of Bomb Blasts Rock Dhaka Business District

BK251600 Hong Kong AFP in English 1556 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Dhaka, March 25 (AFP) — A series of bomb blasts Tuesday rocked the busy commercial area of Moti Jheel here as a group of students staged a procession shouting anti-election slogans, police said.

Nobody was injured or arrested after the blast which took place at the same time as a group of nearly 500 militant students demonstrated in the area, police and eyewitnesses said.

Militant anti-government students have been protesting the holding of parliamentary polls scheduled for May 7, which some major opposition groups including a 15-party opposition alliance have agreed to join.

National polls in Bangladesh have been postponed three times in the past in face of boycott threats from the opposition, which has consistently refused to take part in any electoral exercise under the martial law regime of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

Trade Delegation Leaves for Moscow 24 March

BK241621 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] A 4-member Bangladesh trade delegation left Dhaka for Moscow today. The delegation led by the commerce secretary, Mr A.B.M. Golam Mustafa, will negotiate and conclude a barter protocol with the USSR. The Soviet delegation at the talks will be headed by the deputy minister for foreign trade, Mr A.N. Manzhulo.

Bangladesh and the Soviet Union signed a trade agreement in 1972 and since then the two countries have so far concluded 14 barter protocols. The last protocol was signed in April last year and expires this month.

Under the new protocol, Bangladesh is likely to export to the Soviet Union jute goods, raw jute, hides and skins, tobacco, carpets, ready-made garments, tea and handicraft. It will import from the USSR sugar, cement, cotton, diesel, pig iron, tractors, trailers, machinery, and equipment and spare parts.

'Grave Concern' Expressed Over U.S.-Libyan Conflict

BK261358 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] India has expressed grave concern over the U.S. maneuvers in the Gulf of Sida and attacks on Libyan patrol boats and a missile battery in the Libyan territory. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, an official spokesman said that India views that those acts pose a serious threat not only to the security of the region but also to international peace and stability. India had earlier also expressed that situations of this kind are best resolved through a dialogue and not through pressure. It views that the U.S. action is unfortunate since by virtue of its position as a permament member of the Security Council it has a primary responsibility for maintenance of peace and security and to abide by the principles of the UN Charter.

Other Nations Contacted Over U.S. Nuclear Test

BK251559 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] India is in touch with the other five countries which have joined the 6-nation initiative for nuclear disaramament to formulate a stand on the latest U.S. test at Nevada. This was officially stated in New Delhi today.

Congress-I Members Express Concern on Punjab

BK251601 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Congress-I members of Parliament from Punjab held an emergency meeting in New Delhi and expressed grave concern and anxiety over the recent incidents of violence in the state. The meeting, which was presided over by the chairman of the Punjab state committee of the party, Mr H.S. Hanspal, urged the center to intervene in an effective manner to halt the deteriorating situation in the state. The new PCC-I [Pradesh, State Congress Committee-I] president, Mr (Beant Singh), was also present. The members extended their total support and cooperation to Mr (Beant Singh) and appealed to him to streamline the organization at this critical juncture.

Further Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab

2 Killed; Curfew in 6 Towns

BK260307 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were shot dead by four suspected terrorists in village Satyabad in Amritsar district last evening. The victims were attacked when they were sitting in their shop. The assailants escaped in a truck parked near the scene of the murder.

Meanwhile, a curfew was clamped yesterday in Hajipur town of Hoshiarpur district also. The curfew is continuing in Jullundar, Nakodar, Batala, and Muktsar towns. Night curfew is in force in Kapurthala.

The Amritsar police yesterday arrested the spokesman of the Damdami Taksal [Sikh religious body], Mr Mokham Singh, and three others in connection with a case registered against them by the Amritsar police some time back.

Additional Violence Noted

BK260855 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons, including a suspected terrorist, were killed and a woman injured when some unidentified terrorists attacked a house in a village in Gurdaspur district last evening. According to an official spokesman, some 10 gun-weilding terrorists attacked a house of a retired Army naik [junior officer] and tried to deprive him of his licensed revolver. The naik resisted their attempts, and — in the exchange of fire which followed — the naik and one of the terrorists were killed and a woman relation of the naik was injured.

Meanwhile, tension prevails in Anandpur Saheb, where Holla Mohalla [a religious festival] is to be celeberated tomorrow.

In another incident, one infiltrator was shot dead in an exchange of fire with the Border Security Force [BSF] in the (Gharinda) area last night. According to BSF sources, three persons from across the border were trying to enter the Indian territory. When they were challenged, one man was killed in an exchange of fire and two escaped across the border.

Police Fire on 'Unruly Mob'

BK261259 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In Anandpur Saheb [in Punjab], 5 persons were killed and 15 injured when the police opened fire to control an unruly mob indulging in brickbatting and arson. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the police resorted to firing after lathi [baton] charge and lobbing of teargas shells and firing of plastic bullets failed to control the mob. Someone from amongst the mob is reported to have indulged in firing also.

4 Killed in Communal Clashes in Gujarat Town

BK261257 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In Gujarat, 4 perseons have been killed and 32 others injured in clashes between 2 groups of people in Verval town in Junagad district this afternoon. Following this, indefinite curfew has been clamped in the town from 1300 and the situation is now reported to be under control. According to the police, clashes took place as a sequel to sprinkling of color [to mark Hindu festival today]. The police had to open fire to disperse the violent crowd indulging in stone throwing and arson. District officials have rushed to the town. Strict police patrolling is continuing.

Spokesman 'Deeply Concerned' by Libya-U.S. Conflict

BK260816 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu
0800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman, whose attention was drawn to the incident in the Gulf of Sidra, has said the government of Pakistan is deeply concerned at the situation there. The spokesman said Pakistan firmly believes that the use of or threat to use force for settling disputes is not in keeping with international law and is contrary to the United Nations Charter. The spokesman said the latest incident has created a dangerous situation and poses a threat to international peace and security.

Zia, Junejo Send Messages to Bangladesh President

BK260239 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo have sent messages of greetings to Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad on the National Day of Bangladesh today.

In his message, the president expressed the confidence that the existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue to gain strength in future.

The prime minister said he is fully confident that the friendly relations between the two countries will become stronger in the years to come.

DRA Protest on Airspace Violation Rejected

BK251521 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1510 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Pakistan today rejected the Kabul regime's protest alleging that on 18 March a Pakistani jet aircraft violated Afghanistan's airspace and intruded 8 km inside the Guroko region east of Jalalabad. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this morning and informed of the rejection of the Kabul regime's protest. He was asked to tell his administration to desist from making such false allegations.

Iranian Majlis Deputy Speaks on Relations, Gulf War

GF251651 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
21 Mar 86 p 5

[Article by Minhaj Barna]

[Text] Karachi, March 20: Mr Fakhreddin Hejazi, a member of the Iranian Parliament, said here on Thursday that he was not aware of the reported intrusion by Iranian "Pasdaran" into Pakistan territory across Iran-Baluchistan border. He, however, added that sometimes Iranian guards could unwittingly cross the border in pursuit of smugglers and criminals.

He was replying to newsmen's queries at his news conference on Thursday afternoon at the Karachi Press Club.

Mr Hejazi who is a wellknown writer and journalists of Iran and is author of several books, including *Sarood-i-Iqbal*, a research work on the poet of the East, is currently on a visit to Pakistan.

He said Pakistan being a friendly country, Iran has always shown respect for its borders and there is no question of Iranian guards knowingly crossing the international boundary.

The question arose out of a report published in an English, daily of Karachi alleging that "a group of armed "Pasdaran" (revolutionary guards) who intruded into Pakistani territory near Gwalishtap, a border post in Chaman, was chased out by the Pakistani border security forces late on Monday night".

Asked when the war between Iran and Iraq would come to an end, he said Iraq launcheu the war and was the aggressor and the hostilities would continue until the aggressor was punished.

He said it is not because of any liking for war that Iran is continuing the hostilities. During the last six years as a result of Iraqi "aggression" over 12 Iranian cities have been destroyed, 2000 villages ravaged and the country has to bear a total loss amounting to two and a half billion dollars. This he said, was in addition to thousands of young Iranians who had sacrificed their lives.

Asked whether the war could spill over to other adjoining Gulf states in view of the Gulf Council statements, Mr Hejazi said, "Iran does not want to spread the war unless Iraq itself embarks on an adventure". He quoted a statement from President Khamene'i who said "Iran's war is only with Iraq and we shall stop it as soon as Iraq is punished".

To a question referring to the erecting of fences along Pakistan's boundary line by Iran, he said there is complete peace on the Pakistan-Iran border and if any measures have been taken by his country it was to check smugglers.

Replying to a supplementary, he said the Baluchi people living in border areas on both sides are free to travel.

Asked what was his country's reaction to the recent visit of U.S. warships of the Seventh fleet to Pakistan, Mr Hejazi said, "Our stand is that only fleets of the neighbouring countries have the right to sail in the Indian Ocean and the American and Russian fleets should not intrude into the region".

To a question whether the visit of *Enterprise* was in any way connected with the Iraq-Iran war he said, "We are not afraid of Sixth or Seventh fleets".

In reply to a question on the liberation movement of the Kurds he said Iran has advanced into the Iraqi occupied Kurd areas up to Al-Sulaymaniyah and has liberated them.

Asked whether the Kurd areas in Turkey have also been liberated, he said, "We have no dispute with Turkey".

Regarding his programme in Pakistan, Mr Hejazi said he will spend a couple of weeks here and visit institutions of learning and culture.

SRI LANKA

Visiting Soviet Minister Talks With Trade Minister

BK221528 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Soviet Union will award an increased number of scholarships and more training facilities to Sri Lankans in the near future underlining the growing friendship between the two countries. In addition, the Soviet Union is prepared to help Sri Lanka in numberous other ways. This was disclosed by the visiting Soviet minister, food industries, (?S.I. Vikhlyantsev), when he paid a curtesy call on the minister of trade and shipping, M.S. Amarasiri, in Colombo yesterday. He invited Mr Amarasiri to visit the Soviet Union and hold a dialogue with the Russian trade authorities to further promote trade links between the two countries.

Government To Continue Offer for Cease-Fire

BK251213 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Government wished to [words indistinct] in response to its request for continued good offices to resolve the Tamil ethnic conflict will continue its unilateral offer to cease air attacks in the north and plans to receive Sri Lankan refugees via the Talaimanner pier. Security forces have not resumed their attacks since the announcement of the suspension on 15 March. Assistant government agent (Jaya Samukhanathan), two grama sevakas [village volunteers] and two clerks were back at the Talaimanner pier yesterday to receive any refugee who would return from Tamil Nadu. The government is considering these measures in order to demonstrate its intentions to consolidate the cessation of hostilities and to show it is genuinely creating the conditions necessary to resume the process for a political settlement.

Security forces had arrested a suspect believed to be the Tamil Eelam Liberation Army [TELA] leader at Jaffna in an operation in Kokkuvil. The suspect had been identified as (?Sugar). He is reported to have confessed that he directed TELA operations in Jaffna. In another operation in Kilinochchi, security forces arrested four suspects believed to be members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Secuirty sources said an attempt made by terrorists to blow up [words indistinct] runway escorted by troops who defused a gelignite landmine found buried in the airfield. The mine is said to go off on an impact of the aircraft landing. Meanwhile, the defense council met at noon yesterday to discuss more effective security for the air strip.

In Kilinochchi and Polonnaruwa on Sunday [23 March], 15 terrorist suspects were arrested by the security forces in combing out operations. Security forces have detected 52 kg of explosives buried on the road between Chenkaladi and (Karavianaru) in Batticaloa. They also found 100 yards of wire and a detonator. Security sources said the terrorists have been setting a powerful landmine.

Meanwhile, three more persons were kidnapped and another was critically injured as tension between Muslims and the Tamil community continued in the eastern province yesterday. A total of nine persons had been kidnapped so far within 2 days of unrest in Kattankudi, Araipattu, (Wanchankoduai), and Navatkuda in the Batticaloa district.

On Sunday, two Muslim youths were kidnapped by terrorists and in retaliation a group of Muslims kidnapped four Tamils.

Further Reportage on Violence Incidents

7 Killed in Jaffna, Trincomalee

BK250309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, seven persons have been killed in separate incidents in Jaffna and Trincomalee districts over the last 3 days. Delayed reports reaching Colombo say three elderly persons were killed on Friday and Saturday when security forces fired from their camp at (Thonditurai) in Jaffna district toward devotees gathered at (Seva Samithi) temple. The Velvettiturai citizens committee has condemned the attack on devotees and has claimed that the army has made the temple its main target. In an appeal to the minister for Hindu religious affairs, the committee asked him to order immediate withdrawal of the army from the area and declare the temple premises as sacred.

Muslems Execute Kidnapped Tamils

HK250758 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Colombo, March 25 (AFP) — Moslems in eastern province have executed nine of 18 Tamils kidnapped over the weekend and tied their bodies to lamp posts, sources in the region said Tuesday.

The abductions and Monday's executions were carried out in retaliation for the kidnapping Sunday by militant Tamil separatists of two Moslems whom they believed were home guards, the sources said.

Security forces are patrolling the area to prevent further abductions and retaliations by the Moslem and Tamil communities which dominate the area around the provincial capital of Batticaloa, official sources said Tuesday.

Residents said the Moslems were now threatening to kill the remaining nine Tamils they were holding if the abducted Moslems were not released.

Many shops have closed and transport was reduced to a minimum in Kattankudi, where the two Moslems were taken, and several villages nearby, they added.

Meanwhile, in northwestern Mannar, two militant Tamil separatists and a soldier died when militants ambushed an army unit, security sources said.

The Tamil militants have been waging a long-running campaign for a separate state in the northern and eastern provinces. At least 1,300 people have died in violence related to the campaign during the past 13 months.

2 'Terrorists' Killed in Mannar

BK241058 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Two terrorists were killed by the security forces this morning at Mannar Town. The terrorists had attacked the security forces and in the ensuing clash the two terrorists were killed. According to LANKA PUWATH, an army sergeant received minor injuries in the incident.

Around 10 Marxist terrorists fled when troops raided a terrorist base in Muttur in northwestern Sri Lanka. Home guards also effectively repulsed a terrorist attack on a village in the Trincomalee district. The terrorists had attempted to attack the Jayapura village using small arms and mortar fire. They also exploded an improvised [words indistinct] mine.

'Terrorists' Set Fire to Train

BK251325 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Yaldevi train, coming from Jaffna to Colombo, today was stopped by the terrorists at (Puwanthai), and the passengers on board were asked to disembark. Terrorists then set fire to all (?three) bogies and blasted the engine with explosive device that had been placed under the culvert.

Shortly after the incident, the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, visited the scene to see himself the damage that had been caused by the terrorists.

11 'Marxist Terrorists' Captured

BK231338 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Marxist terrorists who were erecting barricades along the (Thondamannar)-Achchuveli road in the northern province yesterday fled when troops opened fire. Security sources told LANKA PUWATCH that the terrorists were erecting barricades about 1,200 metres away from the (Thondamannar) security forces camp. The troops spotted them and fired mortars. The terrorists fled. The terrorist casualties are not known.

Eleven Marxist terrorists belonging to the Tamil Eelam Liberation, People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam, and the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front were captured by the security forces at Kilinochchi in the northern province yesterday. Security forces, getting the information that these terrorists were harassing the general public, had carried out the search operation.

DAILY NEWS Examines PRC Support

BK250749 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 15 Mar 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Chinese Goodwill"]

[Text] Two points made by President Jayewardene, in his speech at the banquet held in honour of the visiting Chinese President Li Xiannian and Madam Lin Jiamei at the Janadhipathi Mandiraya last Tuesday, could well merit the distinction of being clearly imprinted in the minds of all those concerned with the future of Sri Lanka.

The Lankan President underlined the simple but important truth that the visit of the Chinese leader and his wife symbolised the friendly relations and understanding between our two countries. President Jayewardene also went on to remind his listeners of the Chinese President's assurance to the Lankan Head of State, two years ago in Beijing, that the People's Republic of China would always support the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka.

China ranks with the most powerful nations on earth, today. Military strategists have even come to regard her as a foil to Soviet Russia.

For that reason alone, moral considerations apart, China's endorsement of our independence and unity ought to weigh with foreign observers.

It is doubtless true that it is in times of trouble that we come to discover our friends: come to discover whether people will stand up for a principle and remain true, or fish for excuses to put a gloss on their own perfidy.

Sri Lanka, it may be said, can look back with some satisfaction on her own record in the last Indo-Chinese frontier war. Colombo sought to bring peace, not to offer pretexts for accomodating violence or exploiting the misfortunes of neighbouring states.

The People's Republic of China has pledged itself to assist Sri Lanka in setting up a new complex for our Supreme Court. That gesture is symbolic, too. For, the Courts in any land are there to administer and uphold justice, to uphold the dignity of law, both domestic and international.

Equally, today international terrorism and hijacking like piracy of old, are also matters on which the community of world nations has taken a strong and clear stand: an attitude of abhorrence.

Thus, people who tell us that we can negotiate direct with rebels on our soil might be regarded as displaying splendid indifference if they could convince us, at least, that they were in no way conniving with those who have taken up arms against established authority.

China's own attitude to our problem is at least more re-assuring. To the credit of the Chinese leadership, it has rarely been bamboozled: nor has it ever lacked the courage of giving expression to its own considered opinion on a subject. Least of all, can it be said that the Chinese have any weakness for backing away from friends in distress?

Further Reportage on U.S.-Libyan Conflict

Khamene'i Message of Support

GF260450 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the aggression of the U.S. fleet against Libyan coastal areas, President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i has sent a message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the People's Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

This message says: The seditious and aggressive U.S. imperialism in continuing its mischief has once again rushed its fleet to the Libyan coast and has insolently violated Libyan coastal areas and waters. The firm actions of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in defending its land is a cause of pride for the world's Muslims and we are proud of the Libyan people's defense in face of aggressions by the great Satan.

We believe that the recent U.S. aggression against your coastal waters is a testing ground that the people and the leadership of Libya should consider as a source of pride in their struggle against the seditious U.S. imperialism, just as this aggression is a testing ground for Arab and Muslim countries who always claim to defend the dignity of Arab lands. We hope that these nations carry out practical actions in defense of Libya's people who have been violated so clearly.

The message of the Islamic president also says: I hereby convey the firm support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the brother nation of Libya in their dignified defense in the face of the shameless aggressions by the great Satan. We assure you that the Muslim people of Iran are beside the people and the leadership of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah with all their resources.

We sincerely hope that the United States will be faced with a firm and devastating response from the Muslim people.

Musavi Stesses Support to Jallud

GF260516 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Following the clear aggression of the United States against the territory of brother country Libya, Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, our country's prime minister, held a telephone conversation with Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, late last night.

While stressing the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the face of the clear aggression by the United States, the premier also stressed the need for political and economic coordination between the two countries at regional and international levels.

During this 1-hour telephone conversation, our country's prime minister commented on the fact that aggression against Libya is aggression against Islamic territory and that it cannot remain unanswered in the Islamic world. He said: The spirit of resistance by the Libyan people in the face of U.S. aggression is equal to victory, and if you stand firm the U.S. aggression cannot be effective.

Mr Musavi stressed: Struggles against the United States, Zionism, and reactionaries have joined one another throughout the world. We are beside you with all that is at our disposal to resist this aggression.

Major Jallud then thanked the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its support for the Libyan stance. He said: Your struggle against Saddam in reality is our joint struggle against the United States in the Gulf of Sidra and in OPEC. He confirmed the Libyan people's firm stance in face of the U.S. aggression and said: The United States cannot counter a people who have decided to resist this power even if it means sacrificing one's life for this.

The telephone conversation concluded with an agreement between the two countries to counter U.S. plots in OPEC by further expanding their already close cooperation.

Rafiqdust Sends Note to Jabir

LD260641 Tehran IRNA in English 0634 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 26, IRNA — Minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust in a message to the commander-in-chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, Tuesday said that defending Libya against U.S. aggression in the Gulf of Sidra, was the duty of all Islamic and Arab countries.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, on the basis of its friendly relations and joint strategy with Libya, will remain on the side of the Libyan people in their confrontation against the U.S. aggression, said the message.

The IRGC minister added that the firm action of Libya in defending its territorial integrity against the flagrant U.S. aggression was a source of honour for all [words indistinct].

"In our view the Gulf of Sidra is an inseparable part of Libya and Islamic lands, and naturally defending it against any aggression was the duty of all Islamic and Arab countries," he stressed.

The U.S. Administration should bear in mind that it is playing with fire and obviously continuation of such vicious acts will endanger U.S. interests throughout the region, concluded the message.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement

LD251723 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In connection with America's provocative actions in the Gulf of Sidra, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement saying: Over the past few days U.S. imperialism has engaged in provocative exercises in the waters of the Gulf of Sidra, which are part of the territorial waters of the Islamic state of Libya. It has in practice violated that

country's territory, and, by carrying out repeated military operations, has subjected the revolutionary state of Libya to some threats.

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the recent U.S. provocations against the Muslim Libyan nation and its aggression against that country's airspace and territorial waters. Iran emphasizes its firm support for the struggles of the fraternal Libyan nation in defense of its territory in the face of U.S. aggressions. The Islamic Republic of Iran further declares that it will use all its resources to defend the fraternal state of Libya, and it is confident that such plots cannot make Libya stop pursuing its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist policy. Obviously, should the U.S. aggressions and wickedness continue, not only will Iran and the world's revolutionary states not remain silent but the world's Muslim and revolutionary nations also will strongly confront the United States.

Libya Seeks Execution of U.S. 'Spies'

LD251110 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1045 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Radio Libya today called for the execution of all U.S. spies who reside in Arab countries as experts and advisers. Radio Libya announced that very soon all Arab nations will march to war against America in united ranks. This radio said that the oil used by America should now be destroyed. U.S. bases in Arab countries should be attacked and all U.S. spies who have been sent to the scene as experts and advisers should be executed wherever in the Arab land they might be. The radio once again emphasized the downing of the three U.S. planes during yesterday's confrontation in Mediterranean skies and said that the present battle should be used as an opportunity to destroy America.

'Arab Reactionaries' Silent

GF260542 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Washington's aggression against the airspace over the Gulf of Sidra, including attacks by U.S. jets against the interests of the Libyan people in this gulf, were firmly countered by the people and the Armed Forces of Libya, and through the condemnation of the American actions by countries and progressive and independent circles throughout the world. But Arab reactionaries continue to remain silent in the face of the clear U.S. military aggression against Libya.

According to news agencies, the aggression of the U.S. 6th Fleet, which has come from the other side of the ocean, against Libya's waters and coastal areas has so far been strongly condemned by many countries including the Islamic Republic of Iran, Syria, and Cuba, as well as several other countries and liberation movements. It also has been condemned by independent circles in Western countries.

While the prime allies of the United States, including Britain and the occupying regime of Jerusalem, have announced their full support for the U.S. aggressions against Libya, Arab reactionaries, including the regimes governing Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq and other dependent regimes in the Arab world continue to remain silent about the U.S. military aggression against Libya.

All Means To Be Used in Support

LD251604 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — The Islamic Republic Tuesday cautioned the United States continuing its military confrontation with Libya and said it will not keep silent in the face of continuous hampering with the affairs of the North African nation.

In a statement published here the ministry [not further identified] said the Islamic Republic "will use all its means in support of the Libyan brother nation and it is sure that the conspiracies will not stop Libya from its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist struggle".

"It is only natural that if the American aggressions and wickedness continues, not only Iran but also other Muslim and revolutionary countries will not keep silent but powerfully fight the United States" it said.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the recent military provocations against the Muslim nation of Libya and stresses its firm support for the struggles of the brother nation in defence of its territory".

Libyan and American military forces clashed Monday over the Gulf of Sidra where Libyan leader Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has drawn a "line of death" in defence of his country's territorial waters.

Both Iran and Libya have common anti-imperialist foreign policies. Libya supporters Iran's war effort against the Iraqi Ba'th regime.

Khamene'i Celebrates Religious Holiday in Mashhad

Urges Sunni, Shi'ite Unity

LD251153 Tehran IRNA in English 1337 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., March 24, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i participated in a ceremony commemorating the birth anniversary of Imam 'Ali (A.S.), the first imam of Shi'ite Muslims here Monday.

The ceremony was held in a hall of the holy shrine of Imam Reza (A.S.), the eight Shi'ite imam and attended by local theologians and officials.

The president, who is on an inspection tour of the province, also inspected the construction project of a new library of the holy shrine Monday.

Meanwhile, President Khamene'i received Friday prayer leaders, ulema, professors of theological schools as well as Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims theologians of southern province in Torbat-e Heydariyeh, Khorasan Province, Sunday.

In his address to the gathering, he stressed that Sunni and Shi'ite Muslim theologians should maintain their unity and increase their efforts to dignify Islam and foil various conspiracies hatched by Muslims enemies especialy the global arrogance.

The president also elaborated determining role of committed theologians in the Iranian society.

Emphasizes OPEC Proposal

LD251156 Tehran IRNA in English 0937 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., March 25, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday stressed on Iran's stance towards OPEC and said that Iran's proposal to the organization is in the interest of all member countries and oil producers.

Speaking to IRNA before his departure from Mashhad at the conclusion of his five-day tour of Khorasan Province, the president noted that true nature of those who opposed oil price hike was clear to their people.

During his stay in Mashhad, the president who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council met religious and political figures of the province as well as families of the martyrs. He also toured Torbat-e Heydariyeh township.

Kurds Clash With Iraqi Troops in Rawanduz

LD252050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Kurdish-inhabited Rawanduz area in Iraq recently witnessed a big battle between Kurdish Muslim tribesmen and the military forces of the Iraqi regime. In the course of the battle, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed. A Central News Unit report, citing the news unit of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, says: In retaliation for the defeat they suffered and the great loss of soldiers, the forces of the Iraqi regime, using light and heavy weapons, rained shells on the villages of (Belijan) and (Badilan), resulting in hundreds of villagers being martyred or wounded. The report adds: Two weeks ago a group of Kurdish Muslim peshmargas succeeded in destroying some military vehicles of the Iraqi Army on the (Dinartah) and (Jabal Tiras) road, north of the Iraqi Mosul Province. In the course of these operations, 25 Iraqi soldiers, including 2 senior officers, were killed.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Iraqi Chemical Weapons

LD251142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Statement issued by Foreign Ministry "on Iraq's repeated use of chemical weapons since the UN Security Council statement" — date not given]

[Excerpts] In his exalted name. Despite the Security Council statement condemning the Iraqi regime for deploying chemical weapons and contravening the 1925 Geneva Convention, during the past 2 days, the Iraqi regime has again extensively used chemical weapons in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater. This has resulted in the poisoning of a number of combatants of Islam.

It is necessary for the Security Council and international organizations, which are aware of the dangerous consequences of this illegal action by the Iraqi regime, to take decisive measures to halt such war crimes. The countries of the world should pressure and condemn Saddam's regime to force him to observe international commitments and conventions. Unless the use of chemical weapons is stopped, the Islamic Republic of Iran will be unwillingly forced to adopt other methods to defend itself and stop this dangerous act.

IRGC Chief Urges More To Take Part in War Effort

LD251953 Tehran IRNA in English 1853 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — Comamnder of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rezai'e on Tuesday reflected with approbation on Imam Khomeyni's statement Monday which said Iran would continue her defensive war with the Baghdad regime firmly insisting on her declared conditions for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

In a message from a military base in Val-Fajr-8 operations Tuesday the commander said more and more supporters of the Islamic revolution and of the masses should now more directly involve themselves in the war effort either by taking arms or by contributing to the war effort in whatsoever manner they can.

Rezai'e said the opportunity now is ideal for those who wish to contribute to the war effort since an entire gamut of expertise in countless areas of manufacturing industries and ervice operations can be used in the interest of the war.

The IRGC commander also warned against succumbing to vast foreign propaganda for blunting mass fervor and dampening the public enthusiasm in the Islamic Republic and expressed hope that the masses would march ahead braving the stumbling blocs occasionally laid on their path by the enemies of the Islamic revolution.

Saddam Orders Execution of High-Ranking Officers

LD252030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Since the beginning of the glorious "Val-Fajr-8" operations by Islam's combatants, culminating in the liberation of vast areas in southern Iraq, more than 40 Iraqi Army soldiers, including several high-ranking officers from Iraqi VII Army Corps, were executed by direct orders from Saddam. Reports indicate that the disgraceful defeat suffered by the Iraqi Army in Al-Faw resulted in a fall of confidence by those countries supporting Iraq with regard to the military and operational capability of the Baghdad regime to confront the advance of the Islamic forces.

According to reports, Saddam, at a meeting with Army commanders, threatened to execute all senior military commanders

of the Iraqi VII Army Corps if they failed to regain the Al-Faw region. All this has taken place at a time when, according to reports reaching us, (Jasim al-Hayyani), commander of the Special Forces of the Iraqi Army, was killed during the "Val-Fajr-8" operations and his forces entirely destroyed.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Brigades Destroyed

LD251055 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center of the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, following the complete destruction of the 704th independent infantry brigade of the defeated enemy, in yesterday's heavy fighting, the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam completely routed the 28th infantry brigade of Iraq's III Army. This brigade had been completely surrounded by the combatants during yesterday's operation on the Al-Faw-Basra axis. Hundreds of the remaining personnel of the brigade were also killed or captured by the forces of Islam.

At 0936 and 1145 — local time — today, the fast flying eagles of the Iranian Air Force bombed enemy concentration centers and bases on the 3-way crossing of Al-Bihar road and to the north, dealing fatal blows to the feeble enemy. After these successful operations, our fighter bombers returned safely to their bases.

Also, an enemy naval vessel was destroyed by the forces of Islam in the Khawr 'Abdallah waters.

Communique No 2420

LD251631 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — Iranian forces hit and sank one Iraqi vessel between Bubiyan Island and Al-Faw peninsula at 13:25 hours (09:55 hours GMT) Monday, says a military communique released here Tuesday.

The Communique Number 2420 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that at least 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed and two tanks, one loader, one observation post and three bunkers of theirs were destroyed during artillery battles with Iranian Muslim forces in the western fronts.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, heavy artillery fire of the Islamic forces of Iran pounded Iraqi troops attempting to launch a counterattack in Panjwin, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them and halting their efforts to take over Shaykh Gazneshin height. The Iranian artillery fire also silenced the enemy artillery and repelled an Iraqi patrol unit which was trying to infiltrate the Iranian positions in Shalar.

The joint staff says the industrial and economic installations of the Iraqi Banmil and Naft Khaneh townships were hit and damaged by Iranian artillery fire.

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and the Iraqi forces continued in the southwestern fronts Monday raging somewhat more heavily in Al-Faw, Shahrani and the Majnun Islands as a result of which the Iraqi troops incurred heavy casualties and losses, according to the communique.

A number of Iraqi troops which were digging canals in Nahr Anbar area were killed or wounded by Iranian artillery fire, reports the Joint Staff Command.

Heavy artillery fire of the Iraqi forces hit the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province Monday damaging some houses.

Iraqi Special Forces Head Killed

LD251748 Tehran IRNA in English 1626 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — Commander of Iraq's 'Muhammad al-Qasim' special forces Jasim al-Hayyani is reported killed during Iran's Val-Fajr-8 offensive in Al-Faw, February 9th.

According to a foreign reporter who requested anonymity the death of the commander is now a common topic in private circles in Kuwait.

The Iranian forces totally destroyed Muhammad al-Qasim special forces during Fajr-8 offensive.

The reporter said that Al-Hayyani had been buried in a cemetery next to Umm al-Tabul Mosque in Baghdad.

The war planes of the Islamic Republic heavily bombed Iraq's command center in northern Al-Faw earlier.

Iraqi Missiles Kill Whales

LD260959 Tehran IRNA in English 0927 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., March 26, IRNA — An 11.67 meter long whale hit by an Iraqi rocket in the Persian Gulf waters died in the coasts of Badar Daylam, Bushehr Province, coast guards said here Wednesday.

The whale, wounded by an Iraqi rocket several days ago, was swept ashore and died later.

The Iraqi planes had apparently taken the whale for the "large naval target" which the Iraqi regime so often claims of having hit at the Persian Gulf waters.

According to local marine life officials in the course of the Iraqi imposed war large number of the species have been killed by Iraqi rockets. The Iraqi regime has made the Persian Gulf waters unsafe for marine life.

Iraqi Positions Bombed

LD261049 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, reports that at 1125 today the fast flying eagles of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out a bombing raid on a number of enemy command positions in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater and inflicted very substantial damage and losses on the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime. In addition, the combatants of Islam stationed in the region, while defending the areas captured, prevented the feeble enemy from engaging in any form of activity.

Afghan Mujahidin Down Soviet Helicopter

LD251740 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] London, March 25, IRNA — Afghan mujahideen shot down a Soviet helicopter in Qandahar Province where three mujahids were martyred and 8 others were injured.

Agency Afghan press sources said that Soviet planes and helicopters bombed mujahideen centre for Arghandab town on March 5. During the bombardment a helicopter was hit by anti-aircraft fire which caught fire and crashed. The Soviet pilot and four other troops aboarded the helicopter were also killed on the spot.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MARCH 1986

Lebanon-Israel

Israeli warplanes attacked Fatah targets southeast of Sidon 27 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the raids were directed against a Fatah headquarters in the Al-Miyah wa Miyah refugee camp and against a nearby training base. An AFP report cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said 20 people were killed or injured in the raids.

Four Israelis were slightly injured the same morning when katyushas were fired across Israel's northern border at Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem radio disclosed, citing the IDF spokesman. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stressed that Israel will take action to prevent such incidents from recurring, IDF radio noted

Further Reaction to U.S.-Libyan Clash

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received visiting Maltese Prime Minister Karmenu Mifsud Bonneci 26 March, Tripoli television reported, adding that their talks focused on Malta's initiative to convene the UN Security Council to examine the U.S. "aggression." Meanwhile, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio called for the entire Arab nation to be transformed into "suicide squads and human bombs" directed against U.S. "terrorist embassies and interests wherever they may be." The radio also broadcast a support message to Al-Qadhdhafi from the "interim command" of the Palestinian Liberation Front, which announced that it is waiting for "commands" from the Libyan leader. Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt told Al-Qadhdhafi in a cable reported by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that PSP forces are ready to join the suicide squads and participate in strikes on U.S. interests.

In other Arab reaction, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat confirmed the PLO's support for Libya "without hesitations or reservations," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted. A Kuwaiti official spokesman cited by KUNA condemned the U.S. attacks on Libyan positions. Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba expressed "deep concern" over the U.S.-Libyan clash, Tunis radio reported, and he called for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. A Greek Government spokesman likewise expressed Greece's desire for a peaceful solution to the Gulf of Sidra dispute, according to Athens radio, adding that "the agreement on the U.S. bases in our country prohibits the use of these bases for military purposes in the dispute with Libya."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided an "extremely important" railway bridge northeast of Dezful 27 March, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. Iraqi warplanes also hit maritime targets in the Gulf 26 and 27 March, according to military statements carried by Voice of the Masses radio. As for claims of aircraft losses, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA asserted that an Iranian F-4 was downed over the southern front 27 March, while IRNA stated that an Iraqi jet was shot down by Iranian air defenses in the northern sector 26 March.

Israel-Egypt

Israel and Egypt held another round of Taba talks in Herzliyya 26 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the two delegations are making an "intensive effort" to resolve the remaining substantive issues. In an interview with IDF radio, Foreign Minister Shamir claimed that Israel has shown "great willingness to meet the Egyptian requests halfway" but that Egypt's "tough stand" has prevented progress at the talks.

Sudan-Ethiopia

Allegations that Ethiopian planes have flown into southern Sudan with munitions and supplies for Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces are unfounded, an SPLA spokesman announced in a statement reported by the clandestine SPLA radio. Meanwhile, SPLA leader Colonel John Garang reiterated his movement's rejection of Sudanese Government plans to begin holding elections in parts of southern Sudan in April, according to an *AL-SAHAFAH* report cited by SUNA. Garang said the SPLA will fight against any government resulting from such "partial" elections.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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U.S. Commits 'Unprovoked Piratic Invasion' of Libya

LD270625 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 26, BAKHTAR — A political commentator of BAKHTAR writes:

The USA, which has accepted state institutionalised terrorism as its official policy, conducted an armed aggression against the People's Republic of Libya on March 14, 1986.

The unprovoked piratic invasion carried out by the USA against Libyan vessels and rocket launching centres of that country at the behest of the White House is indicative of the fact that the Reagan administration subjects to brutal attacks any nation which assumes an independent and anti-imperialistic policy.

The rulers of the White House have time and again vociferated the myth of the danger of Libya which is located at a distance of thousands of kilometers from that country. This fiction has also been vociferated by the Washington administration in connection with Nicaragua.

It is an established fact that Washington has organised the attack on Libya in accordance with its neo-global policy to the effect that it should embark upon any kind of heinous action for attaining its objectives.

The terroristic invasion of the Armed Forces of the Washington administration has evoked international indignation. A group of Italian parliament members, Social Democratic Party of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and members of the U.S. Congress as well as other countries of the world evaluated the invasion of the Armed Forces of the USA against Libya as an irresponsible and terroristic action and condemned it.

The prime minister of Israel has flagrantly stated that the USA is entitled to preserve the freedom of navigation in the oceans in any part of the world. That is, as if the USA is entitled to stage state terrorism in any part of the world.

The world public have well realised that the Reagan administration has put world peace on great stake and it is the conductor of regional conflicts in the world.

Who can believe that the Reagan administration would not attack another country another day under some other false pretext for its aggression.

Since the Reagan administration has conducted an unwarranted terroristic aggression against Libya, it should respond to the world public opinion for its crime.

Opposition Groups Announce Antielection Stands
HK250956 Hong Kong AFP in English 0926 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Dhaka, March 25 (AFP) — At least four components of Bangladesh's largest opposition alliance issued anti-election stands Tuesday, against a decision by the alliance leader to take part in rescheduled parliamentary polls.

Leaders of four components of the 15-party alliance — the Workers Party, the Sramik Krishak Samajbadi Dal (SKSD) and two factions of the Socialist Party of Bangladesh — said they had broken with the Awami League on the issue.

The Awami League Monday said it supported the May 7 polls.

The split occurred at a meeting of the alliance late Monday at the residence of Sheikh Hasina Wajed, alliance chief and Awami League leader.

A fifth component, the Jatiyo Samajtantrik Dal (JSD), also differed with the Awami League, did not attend the meeting and was likely to boycott the election, sources said.

Sheikh Hasina told reporters that leaders of the component parties were scheduled to discuss the issue again Tuesday, but SKSD leader Nirmal Sen ruled out his party's participation in any further meetings.

"We don't see any justification to come to the meetings again," he said.

The fundamentalist Jamiat-e-Islami Party, an opposition group that operates individually, decided to participate in the polls at a meeting Monday, but newspapers here Tuesday reported significant anti-election pressure during the meeting from workers and cadres, particularly from students.

Jamiat said it decided to join the polls to avoid confrontation with the military regime and to boost the movement towards the restoration of democracy.

The other major opposition alliance, a seven-party alliance led by Begum Khalida Zia, is to decide at a meeting Thursday.

Military ruler Hussain Mohammad Ershad, who came to power in a bloodless coup and dissolved the assembly in 1982 and named himself president the next year, Friday announced the polls set for April 26 would be moved to May 7.

He also offered a package of concessions to the opposition, which has opposed any polls held under martial law. Polls have been set and postponed thrice in the face of an opposition boycott.

Lieutenant General Ershad has taken steps toward disbanding martial law offices and courts, and dropped 18 full ministers, one adviser, five ministers of state, and three deputy ministers — most of them from the government backed National Party. The cabinet now stands with nine full ministers.

Sources said this was a bid to prove the administration's neutrality.

Emergency Meeting of Punjab Cabinet Called

BK261629 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] At Anandpur in Punjab 5 persons were killed and 18 injured today when police opened fire to control an unruly mob indulging in brickbatting, arson, and throwing of incendiary bombs. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, police resorted to firing after a lathi [baton] charge, lobbing of tear gas shells, and firing of plastic bullets failed to control the mob. Some persons from the mob also indulged in firing.

The spokesman said the trouble started when the activists of the All India Sikh Students Federation and Damdami Taksal [Sikh fundamentalist religious school] tried to capture the stage set up by the Akali Dal on the occasion of Holla Mohalla [religious festival]. The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, had just finished addressing the congregation, and some of his ministerial colleagues also had spoken. About a dozen police personnel were injured in the incident. The adminsitration has clamped curfew in the town as a precautionary measure till Friday [28 March] morning.

Mr Barnala has convened an emergency meeting of the state cabinet tomorrow morning in Chandigarh to review the law-and-order situation in the state. He said the state government is determined to put down with a firm hand the activities of antisocial and antinational elements who are indulging in these activities on behalf of a foreign power.

Mr Barnala has also called a meeting of the working committee of the Akali Dal in Chandigarh tomorrow afternoon. Mr Barnala, who is president of the Akali Dal, condemned the attempt by the unruly mob to violate the sanctity of the Holla Mohalla congregation. In a statement, he said the congregation is being held strictly in accordance with the traditions started by the 10th Sikh guru — Guru Govind Singh. He said the disruptive elements carrying lethal weapons attacked the diwan [religious seat] and indulged in violence.

The situation in Jullundur and Nakodar continues to be under control. Curfew in both the cities has been extended up to 1100 [0530 GMT] till Friday. Curfew in the old city was relaxed today for 2 hours from 1400. The additional areas placed under curfew on Monday were, however, not given any relaxation today. The relaxation period passed off peacefully. Indefinite curfew also continues in village (Hadipur) in Hoshiarpur district.

Akali Dal Office in Golden Temple Attacked

BK270909 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, the situation in the curfew-bound town of Anandpur Saheb which witnessed some violent incidents yesterday is officially stated to be fully under control. The curfew imposed since yesterday afternoon will continue till 0800 tomorrow. As already reported, the Punjab cabinet is holding an emergency meeting in Chandigarh. The state chief minister, who is the president of the Akali Dal, has also summoned the meeting of the working committee of the party.

The death toll in yesterday's incidents at Anandpur Saheb has gone up to 7 with two more persons succumbing to their injuries. Twenty-nine people including 11 policemen were injured in the incident. An official spokesman clarified that the All India Sikh Students Federation and the Damdami Taksal [Sikh fundamentalist religious school] activists have been inciting the people against the government at the diwan at Anandpur Saheb for the last 3 days. The spokesman said at about 1400 yesterday these activists armed with swords, spears, and firearms surged toward the diwan organized by the Akali Dal. Some of them indulged in firing. He said the mob was declared an unlawful assembly on the public address system and efforts to control them through persuasions, lathi charge, and lobbing of teargas shells failed. The spokesman said in view of the grave and imminent danger to life and property, including those of VIP's and the general public, the police resorted to firing to control the situation.

The CPI leader and the former member of legislative assembly, Mr Arjun Singh Mastana, and his gunman Constable Kamaljit Singh, were shot dead by suspected terrorists at his village Gariala in Amritsar District early this morning. The victims were in their house when they were attacked.

In Amritsar this morning, the activists of the All India Sikh Students Federation attacked and occupied the head office of the Akali Dal located in a building adjacent to the Golden Temple complex. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that they later set the office on fire. Senior civil and police officials rushed to the spot and the fire was brought under control.

In Muktsar, with the improvement in the situation an 8-hour relaxation has been given in the curfew from 0900 this morning. In Jullundur, the curfew was relaxed from 0700 this morning in the old city area. In other parts of the city and Nakodar, it has been extended up to 1100 tomorrow. Indefinite curfew continued in Hajipur village of Hoshiarpur District. However, the situation at all these places is under control.

The CPI-M has expressed shock at the murder of the CPI leader Mr Mustana and his gunman. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, the politburo of the party said the activities of the extremists are posing a serious threat to national unity.

6 Killed, 10 Injured Near Pilibhit; Curfew Imposed

BK270315 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] According to UNI, six persons were killed and ten others injured in a clash between two groups in (Nooriya), about 15 km from Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh yesterday. Police sources in Lucknow said this morning that the situation is under control following the imposition of indefinite curfew in the area. They said round-the-clock patrolling in Pilibhit town besides (Nooriya) is going on as a precautionary measure.

Junejo Views Talks With Opposition, Gandhi Visit
BK161552 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Talking to newsmen at the airport on his arrival in Sukkur from Islamabad today, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said his government has given complete freedom to the opposition to function and present its viewpoints before the people. The government has never considered the opposition political parties as a challenge, because the government's party itself is quite strong. However, he added that if the opposition considers it necessary, the government's doors are open for dialogue.

About the proposed visit of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister said he recently met with him in Stockholm. The Indian prime minister wants a prepared agenda for the talks. This agenda will be prepared at the ministrial meeting which will also consider it. [sentence as heard]

About Indian protests about Pakistan's nuclear policy, the prime minsiter said everybody is aware of Pakistan's stand on this matter.

Demonstration Against U.S. Fleet in Karachi Held
GF261405 Lahore JANG in Urdu 19 Mar 86 p 1, 7

[Text] Karachi (*JANG* correspondent) — To protest the U.S. naval presence in Karachi a demonstration was held Monday evening in the cantonment area between Regal Square and the Empress Market. The demonstrators chanted slogans denouncing the U.S. naval unit. They burned an effigy of President Reagan and a U.S. flag. In addition to the leftist political parties, students, and workers of the toilers organizations, a group of Shi'ites also took part in these demonstrations.

As the demonstrators dispersed peacefully, the police made a baton charge against the Islamic Unification Movement Group led by Mirza Yusaf Hussain, the leader of the Shi'ite religious jurisprudence implementation movement. As soon as Mirza Yusaf Hissain concluded his speech, the police launched the charge. This caused confusion among the demonstrators. However, calm was restored 10 minutes after the police action. During the demonstrations hot words were exchanged between the members of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and other parties taking part in the demonstrations. At times there were scuffles between them. Members of other parties strongly opposed the PPP hoisting its flag.

Yusaf Masti, Central Committee chief of the Pakistan National Party [PNP], said: At the instigation of the U.S. agent, the shahanshah of Iran, Baluchistan was invaded in 1972-77. Now again the United States has brought its fleet to put pressure on Iran. If the U.S. naval unit is here to safeguard American interests, they should know that this unit will be drowned here.

Another leader Iqbal Haidar addressed the demonstrators. He said: We may die hungry, but we will not feed ourselves with the crumbs of the colonialists. If the colonial force visits Pakistan on pleasure trips, Pakistanis should drown themselves in shame. Pakistan will not be converted into a barroom. Where was the U.S. fleet when Pakistan was having difficulties in 1971? The motive of the American fleet to Pakistan is not merely to pass their time in frivolous amusement. They have come to inspect their bases for possible use by their Rapid Deployment Force. This naval presence also adversely affects the neutral status of Pakistan in the Iran-Iraq war. This visit of the U.S. naval unit is a threat to Iran.

Khalil Qoreshi, local chief of the Pakistan People's Party, said: We will not allow the colonialists to step into Pakistan. The Lebanese have thrown the Americans out of their territory. The American colonialists want to defeat the Afghan revolution and the Afghan agents of the American colonialists are trafficking in heroin in Pakistan.

M. Qaisarani, local chief of the Pakistan National Party, said: We, the workers, will be in the forefront of the confrontation with the colonialists.

Li Xiannian To Make Stopover Visit 27 March
BK251545 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] President Li Xiannian will arrive in Karachi on Thursday [27 March] on a brief stopover on his way back to Beijing from Madagascar. The Chinese president, who will be leaving Karachi for China on Friday morning, is going back home after his official visit to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Somalia, and Madagascar.

SRI LANKA

Training Plane Crashes; Separatists Attacks Noted

BK260710 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Colombo, March 26 (AFP) — A ground attack plane crashed during a training exercise Tucaday, killing the pilot and trainee pilot, and three soldiers and five civilians died in clashes between security forces and militant Tamil separatists, official sources said.

Militant separatists on Tuesday also blew up a culvert ahead of the main passenger train from the northern capital Jaffna, the sources said.

The sources said the two-million dollar Siai Marchetti ground attack plane plunged into the sea at Beruwela, 53 kilometers (33 miles) south of here, during training exercises, killing the pilot and trainee pilot. The bodies of the two men were recovered from the submerged plane by life guards from a nearby tourist hotel, residents there said.

The plane was one of six Marchettis bought by the government recently to train pilots and to carry out bombing missions against militant Tamil separatists campaigning for an independent state in the north and east.

In the northeastern Trincomalee district, meanwhile, three soldiers died and three others were wounded Tuesday when the armoured car in which they wece travelling was blown up by a landmine set by Tamil separatists, official sources said.

Further southwest in the Vavuniya area, five policemen were wounded Tuesday when their vehicle was blasted with a landmine on the Vavuniya-Medawachiya road, the sources said. The police opened fire after coming under attack and in the crossfire five civilians were killed, the sources said.

In another incident Tuesday, militants blew up a culvert ahead of the main train from Jaffna for the second time in 15 days, railway officials said.

After the culvert near Omanthai in the northern district was blown up, the train pulled to a stop and armed militants drove away the passengers.

The militants then blew up some of the coaches with explosives, causing several million rupees worth of damage, the officials said. Informed sources said the attack was believed to be the work of the Tamil Eelam Army (TEA), a small militant group which is also said to be responsible for the earlier attack on the train.

Meanwhile, reliable sources said there was no truth in a report Tuesday from Madras, in southern India, that the Sri Lankan Government was trying to reach an accord with Tamil groups without Indian involvement and that talks were likely to begin in Bangkok on Sunday.

The sources said the government had no hand in any talks between various groups that might be on the cards.

The government would welcome any kind of talks that will ease tensions and bring about better understanding. But it has nothing to do with it, the source said.

Meanwhile, a leading member of the Batticaloa citizens committee in the eastern province denied reports Tuesday that Moslems had executed nine Tamils they abducted after clashes between the two communities earlier in the week.

SUN Urges India To Continue Mediation Efforts

BK250759 Colombo SUN in English 14 Mar 86 P 7

[Editorial: "Hopes for Peace"]

[Text] Amidst obvious indications that Indo-Lanka ties are taking another deep plunge the Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has called on Sri Lanka to talk to the Tamil groups directly with a view to solving the ethnic imbroglio and leave New Delhi out of the tortuous peace efforts.

Coming close on the heels of the recent outburst against Sri Lanka in the Indian Rajya Sabha by the Indian Foreign Minister B.R Bhagat, who happened to discern 'elements of genocide' in the current turbulence occurring in the Tamil-dominated areas of the north and east of Sri Lanka, these pronouncements by the Indian Premier point to a new toughness in New Delhi's attitude towards the Lankan problem.

In an apparent effort to downgrade India's role as honest broker in Lanka's ethnic conflict, the Indian prime minister is reported to have told the *TELEGRAPH* newspaper that New Delhi didn't want Sri Lanka to talk to it any more. Instead it called on Colombo to approach the Tamil groups directly.

This is a very unfortunate development, to say the least. India has been, thus far, playing a very laudable role in bringing together the various parties to the conflict in an effort to evolving a just and equitable settlement to the vexed ethnic issue. As a dominant power in the region it has recognised the necessily of maintaining peace in South Asia by preventing the bifurcation of states. Peace within, the boundaries of individual states is an essential pre-condition for stability in the region.

Having patiently borne with us this far, it is most unfortunate that India should decide at this crucial juncture to curtail its mediatory efforts. It is true that all efforts at negotiating a peaceful solution to the ethnic conflict have been painfully slow. But there is no cause for disillusionment or disenchantment. Sri Lanka has shown, in no uncertain terms, that it attaches top priority to a negotiated settlement. President J.R. Jayewardene's recent invitation to Indian trouble-shooter Romesh Bhandari, to renew his shuttle diplomacy is a clear indication of Lanka's motives.

What we all ought to guard against at this moment is a mood of hopelessness. Peace will no doubt be slow in coming because the aspirations of both the majority and minority communities in Lanka have to be satisfied. Hope and optimism in the hearts and minds of all parties including India could go a long way in realising this elusive peace.

Additional Reports on Libyan-U.S. Conflict

Supreme Court Chief Sends Message

LD261220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that in the wake of the U.S. fleet's aggression against the Libyan coastal region, Mr Musavi-Ardabili, the president of the Supreme Court, has addressed a message to the officials and people of the fraternal state of Libya. The message, referring to naked aggression as the ugliest feature of imperialism, says: It is incumbent upon all the world's free governments and nations, the region's nations in particular, to condemn and castigate the aggressor in the strongest possible terms and to prevent the superpowers from not recognizing any bounds or limits just because of their power.

In his message, the president of the Supreme Court condemned this naked aggression and addressed the officials and people of the fraternal Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He said: The Iranian Muslim and revolutionary nation, which regards it as its duty to continue the war against international arrogance until sedition is eliminated in the world, deems it its duty in these historic moments to stand by the Muslim Libyan people so as to fulfill its humane and Islamic duty.

SAIRI Denounces U.S. 'Aggression'

LD261941 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Following the U.S. military aggression against Libya, the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq issued a statement. The statement reads in part:

The crushing blows dealt by Islam's troops on the battlefronts and by the self-sacrificing Iraqi mujahidin inside Iraq are about to bring down the shakey foundations of the pro-U.S. Baghdad government and Arab reaction is in collaboration with the arch-Satan, the United States. In these times the United States, the sworn foe of Islam, has embarked on plots against the Islamic nation in order to harm it with the weapon of oil and thereby plunder its oil and has assaulted a corner of the great Islamic homeland, the territory of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the Gulf of Sidra. These actions have again proved its animosity toward the Islamic world!

The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq strongly denounces this aggressive U.S. action which is an attempt to make up for its fiascos in Iran and Lebanon and a move toward preventing the fall of its hirelings in Baghdad, Cairo, and Oman. The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iraq hereby proclaims that any aggression against the sanctity of the Islamic countries shall bring nothing but defeat and at this time, too, the heroic Muslim nation of Libya, armed with firm resolution and solid faith, shall impose the bitter taste of defeat on the ramshackle U.S. superpower!

Velayati, USSR Envoy Discuss Libya, U.S., Relations

LD271046 Tehran IRNA in English 1034 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 27, Tehran — The Soviet Union ambassador to Tehran, V.K. Boldyrev, in a meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Thursday, explained stance of his government towards recent U.S. aggression against Libya.

He also urged the Islamic Republic of Iran to make efforts and cooperate for the establishment of peace in southern Mediterranean. The Soviet diplomat also called on Iran to support the Soviet efforts in the emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council.

Boldyrev expressed concern of his country over restrictions created for the Soviet diplomats by the U.S. Administration in the United Nations. He hoped that the Islamic Republic of Iran will take measures against such expansionist policies.

Velayati said that Iran held a similar view on the U.S. aggression against Libya and the Islamic Republic of Iran has strongly condemned the U.S. action and calls for an all-out support for Libya.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, he told the Soviet diplomat, will do whatever possible to protect independence and national sovereignty of Libya.

As for the U.S. restrictions on certain countries in the United Nations, he said that U.S. has exerted such pressures on Iran in post-revolutionary period. Iran, he added, protests against any pressure or influence of any country in the United Nations and has voiced its opposition in this respect.

During the meeting expansion of bi-lateral relations in all fields were discussed.

Total 'Mobilization' of Resources for War Announced

LD261222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] During today's Cabinet session, the prime minister announced that the question of the war will be given top priority in the government agenda this year. This year all facilities should be placed at the disposal of the war. For this reason, war support committees at ministries should be strengthened. A circular will be issued to all organizations regarding the mobilization of all resources.

Referring to the coordination between the government, the people, and the Majlis, the prime minister called it one of the current Cabinet's means of success.

He also announced that committed and Hezbollahi forces and Islamic societies would be strengthened as part of government policies. He expressed the hope that in the current year the government would be able to give more attention to these valuable forces.

After the Cabinet session, in an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent, Prime Minister Musavi described as excellent the conditions on the fronts and the morale of the combatants of Islam in the fight against the Ba'thist pagans. He called the imam's message about the all-round presence of the people on the fronts an outstanding help to the combatants of Islam. He said that the government is helping to increase the strength of the combatants through a general mobilization.

Regarding Iran's aid to Libya in face of the recent U.S. attacks on that country, the prime minister said that the struggle against imperialism is extensive and worldwide. Naturally, whenever Islam and Islamic countries are threatened, these weapons [as heard] are used appropriately, since all Islamic countries should stand against America. At present, Libya is doing that in the Gulf of Sidra. Therefore, we support it.

The prime minister described the reason for the decrease in the volume of trade between Turkey and Iraq as the bankrupcy of the Baghdad regime. He said that Iraq's request for the deferment of its debts to Turkey is a sign of the poor economic situation in that country.

He finally said that the support of the Arab League for Iraq and condemnation of Iran by that league for the presence of Iranian forces in Iraq is a sign of the pro-U.S. leanings of the league in view of the Libyan situation and the recent provocations.

Majlis Speaker Comments on Need for Military Training

LD261843 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, yesterday visited those wounded during the imposed war and who are hospitalized in Tehran's Torfeh hospital. The imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council was accompanied on his visit to these dear combatants by the under secretary of the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Training, the head of the hospital, and other officials. Every department of the hospital explained their work to the visitors. During the visit, Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed thanks for the selflessness and sacrifices of these intrepid combatants.

At the end of his visit to the wounded in the imposed war, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council gave an interview to our correspondent. We now draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] In his gracious behests his holiness the imam referred to new dimensions and prospects, particularly in connection with the war, the dispatch of forces, and also emphasis on defense until victory. As his holiness's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, what is your opinion?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] I thought his holiness's remarks were so serious that for a moment I thought of leaving the Majlis for the battlefront in order to carry out any duties. He was unequivocal and quite clear. To begin with, when his holiness speaks in this way he must know certain things which we undoubtedly do not know. His holiness must have in mind more important problems, such as how to complete the victory and that people should go to the fronts. He remonstrated with those very few people who could be found here and there and who grumble sometimes. He graciously commanded that we should go to the fronts. So a new (?issue) arose for us: The responsible leaders of the Basij, the corps, and government organizations are now duty-bound to make greater efforts than in the past in order to secure the training and dispatching of forces.

Following his latest speech, the readiness of the corps, the Basij, the government, the army, and the rest of the Armed Forces for training and dispatching has been increased. Those who are capable of bearing arms should, as a rule, be ready. Of course, as far as I know this is an appropriate step since if we make proper use of this victory we have achieved, we will be able to finish the war properly. But if we allow the enemy to prepare himself again, the conclusion of the war might take longer. And this obedient servant, as one who is to a certain extent competent in problems of war, in the Supreme Defense Council and in other war problems, therefore thinks that the guideline was quite timely and therefore new conditions should be brought about.

[Correspondent] Thank you!

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] I wish you success! [End recording]

Oil Minister Comments on Results of OPEC Talks

LD262002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In an interview with local and foreign reporters this afternoon, Oil Minister Aqazadeh explained the results of the recent sessions of OPEC. He said: The OPEC sessions have not ended yet and will resume in 2 weeks. He added: In these sessions, the Islamic Republic of Iran was pursuing two objectives. The first and most fundamental objective was to defend prices and in the joint meeting we had with OPEC and non-OPEC producers on defending prices, it was decided that OPEC will defend the $28 price, and will try to restore this price within a certain time.

The second objective was how to arrive at this price. From the point of view of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the amount of oil flooding the market can be reduced through much reduced production, in order to bring it to a point where supply and demand can be preserved and prices can gradually move up toward $28. We proposed that production should be brought down by 3 million barrels to settle at a ceiling production of 13 million barrels, but after much discussion, the conference (?initially) had in mind a ceiling of 14 million barrels.

Then a group began to discuss the framework for working out the quotas within the 14 million barrel provision. The Venezualan oil minister was made responsible for this task, and made a proposal which was opposed by some of the participants, including the Iraqi regime's representative. For this reason, the conference was unable to reach any conclusions and it was decided that governments should consult with each other on this question. He added: We expect the countries of the Persian Gulf region to bring pressure to bear on Iraq so that it will conform to the framework

and regulations of OPEC because Iraq has not adhered to the quota OPEC allocated to it.

The reporter of the Central News Unit asked: Do you think that this pressure will take place in practice? The oil minister replied: We believe that the existing situation is not in anyone's interest. It is possible that within OPEC there may be a country which could balance its revenues with increased sales. But the primary oil producers have all suffered losses. Aqazedeh was asked to what extent he is optimistic about reaching agreement in the coming session, and he answered: We think that anyone who thinks independently can only decide that this is the solution [as heard] unless he is getting instructions from other quarters. Otherwise, today, there is no reason at all why those who have been confronted with a great reduction in the volume of revenues should close their eyes to the only existing solution, that is, decreasing production, and choose not to cast their votes on this.

Aqazadeh added: If these countries do not reach agreement, the situation will be worse than it is now. In that case, two situations would arise: First, economic problems would emerge internally for these countries, and second, the oil market would become extremely disturbed and it would not be easy or simple to control and preserve it. Of course, if this were to happen there would be need for serious resistance and the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to confront the issue through every means at its disposal. If through various meetings and through logic, no results are achieved, then the Islamic Republic might very well make other decisions in order to get out of this crisis situation.

He was asked how the reduction in Iran's oil revenues will be made up, and Aqazadeh said: Our country is a revolutionary one and it will adapt itself to every kind of circumstance. Our nation has been able to endure circumstances which have been far worse and harder than losses in revenues; we might very well count this as a blessing and a good fortune for our country since it will help us to reduce our dependency on oil. We believe that our nation, which has entered the area with such vigilance and with all its being, will remain steadfast, resistant, and selfless in the face of any movement which may have occurred by now. But I do not feel that any serious problems will arise inside our country.

Foreign Ministry Official Visits Syria, Lebanon

Meets Syria's Khaddam

LD261505 Tehran IRNA in English 1445 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, March 26, IRNA — Foreign Ministry director-general for political affairs Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani met here Wednesday with Syrian vice-president for political affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

At the meeting, views were exchanged on latest developments in the region, and on topics of mutual interest and bilateral ties. The head of Islamic Republic's Embassy in Damascus Mr. Hashemi also attended the meeting.

Lavasani on Monday met and conferred with Lebanese religious and political figures in Beirut and Tripoli.

Meets Lebanese Political Figures

LD260048 Tehran IRNA in English 1729 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, March 25, IRNA — In seperate meetings with Lebanon's religious and political figures here and in Tripoli Monday and Tuesday a visiting Iranian delegation reviewed outlooks of future struggle against the Zionists and the ways and means for Lebanese Muslims to attain their social and political rights in Lebanon.

On Tuesday members of an Iranian delegation headed by the Director General for Political Affairs Department of the Iranian Foreign Ministry Hoseyn Lavasani met and held talks with Al-'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and vice chairman of the Supreme Assembly of Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslims Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din. Members of the Iranian delegation also met and reviewed the ways and means for integrating anti-Zionist forces and coordinating their struggle against the Zionists.

The Iranian delegation also met and reviewed the political situation in Lebanon and outlooks of future anti-Zionist struggle with Da'ud Da'ud a leader of the Amal Movement in Lebanon and also with a mixed representatives of Amal and the Hizballah of Lebanon.

On Monday the Iranian delegation attended a commemorative ceremony in honor of martyred Shaykh Khalil Akawi in Tripoli and expressed condolence to leader of the Islamic Tawhid Movement Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban and to the relatives of the martyred shaykh.

Kuwait Continues 'Enimical' Policies, Expells Workers

GF261723 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The Government of Kuwait, continuing its enimical policies against the Islamic Republic of Iran, has expelled another 60 Iranian Muslim workers. According to a Central News Unit report, this group of Iranians, who had suffered physical and mental torture before deportation, arrived at Bushehr Port on motor launches. They have been put up at the special camp established for deportees from Kuwait.

Qom Seminary Expresses Support for Khomeyni

LD251849 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Following the historic remarks by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of His Holiness Imam 'Ali, peace be upon him, the Islamic Publicity Bureau of Qom Seminary has addressed a message to the imam of the nation. It says: Your spiritual children are determined, as in the past, to meticulously adhere to your eminence's guidance, and, with extensive publicity, to stand by their brothers in the Army, the Guards Corps, and the Basij forces so that, with the guidance of the dear imam and the selflessness of our martyr-nurturing nation, the cancerous root of the Ba'thist 'Aflaqi regime will be destroyed.

Ship Repair Work Begins at Dolphin Dry Dock

GF261429 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 10 Mar 86 p 2

[Text] Bandar 'Abbas (*KEYHAN* correspondent) — The first repair job at the Dolphin dry dock commenced with repairs to the 17,000-ton ship *Chah Bahar*.

Engineer Amini, official in charge of the Dolphin project, told our correspondent about the work of this dry dock. He said: The Dolphin dry dock is one of the largest floating dry docks in the Middle East. By exploiting Iranian workers and Iranian engineers if the Persian Gulf ship building yard, this dry dock is capable of repairing ships up to 80,000 tons, thus avoiding repair work done in foreign countries and saving the expenditure of tens of thousands of dollars in foreign exchange.

He added: The first job by this dry dock has been to lift the ship *Chah Bahar*, which had been lying in water for the past 10 years. No underwater repair work had been done on it during this period.

In conclusion, he said: With the use of the dry dock's ship lifting machinery, which is being completed at present, floaters of more than 20,000 tons will be built in the country for the first time.

Kurdish Operations Against Iraq Detailed

Military Airport Destroyed

LD251221 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., March 25, IRNA — The Iraqi Muslim Kurdish revolutionaries in a recent successful operation, attacked and destroyed the Bamarni military airport in Dahuk region, reliable sources said here Tuesday.

The attack has created tension in the area as a result of which all schools in the region are closed down.

Meanwhile the Iraqi Muslim Kurds in a separate attack on the headquarters of the so called Iraqi Popular Forces, the police station and the power generator of (Kari Ajam) in Dahuk, inflicted heavy damages.

The Iraqi Kurdish Muslims fighting against the Iraqi regime, in another operation last week took over the Basra-'Aqrah road, killing three Iraqi soldiers.

In another development the Iraqi Kurds last week took control of the Iraq-Turkey transit road in northern Iraq and destroyed a column of trucks loaded with goods. The Iraqi regime in retaliation bombarded the Dahuk valley and arrested more than one hundred of inhabitants of the (Sar-Tangi) village on charges of cooperation with Muslim Kurds.

Troop Bases 'Demolished'

LD261522 Tehran IRNA in English 1457 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 26, IRNA — Iraq's Kurdish Muslim guerrillas demolished several troops bases of government forces as well as those of the Munafiqeen Khalq Organization (MKO) in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province last week, according to informed sources.

The guerrillas also known as peshmargas shelled an Iraqi base near (Sa'id Khan), killing at least ten Ba'thist soldiers, the sources said.

In a clash between Iraqi peshmargas and munafiqeen near Karizah and (Sutah) villages of Iraq, the Kurds killed some 23 and wounded five other government soldiers, and destroyed munafiqeen's bases in Safra' and (Sutah).

The munafiqeen cooperate with Iraqi Government and use the Iraqi soil for terrorist operations against the Islamic Republic.

The sources said munafiqeen bases in the villages of Gamish, Safra', as well as Mirawah of Al-Sulaymaniyah Province were closed down by the local people.

The peshmargas also captured Ba'thist military base of Husasi in Zakhu region, according to the IRNA correspondent from Orumiyeh, West Azarbaijan Province.

In the operations all Iraqi soldiers in the base were killed and their equipment destroyed.

Four Iraqi helicopters and artillery guns shelled several villages in the area inflicting damage on villagers.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2421

LD261640 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 26, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Wednesday that Iraqi warplanes dropped chemical bombs in the operational region of Al-Faw at 18:20 hours (14:50 hours GMT) Monday.

In its Communique Number 2421, the command says that at least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one munitions dump, one truck and over six bunkers of the Iraqi forces were set ablaze in the Western fronts Tuesday as heavy artillery fire of the Islamic forces of Iran pounded their positions.

Exchange of artillery fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and the Iraqi troops continued sporadically in the southern fronts raging somewhat more heavily in Al-Faw and Talayah, according to the communique.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and one munitions dump together with several gun emplacements of theirs were demoloshed by the artillery fire of the Iranian forces.

The communique says that Iranian Muslim forces checked transport operations of Iraqi helicopters in Marivan and Panjwin and forced several enemy patrol units trying to infiltrate their

positions to flee inflicting casualties and damage on enemy patrols.

In the areas overlooking Sumar, the Islamic forces of Iran halted flight of Iraqi helicopters and opened fire on an Iraqi patrol unit killing or wounding a number of the Iraqi troops and forcing the remainder to flee, reports the Joint Staff Command.

Iranian Muslim combatants shelled some Iraqi command Jeeps in Nahr-Anbar inflicting losses on them and elsewere in Faqqeh they controlled the movement of an Iraqi armoured column.

Iraqi artillery was silenced in Jofeyr and their engineering operations including breastwork building in Halaleh were checked by Iranian forces on Tuesday, says the Joint Staff communique.

MIG-23 Downed; Al-Faw-Basra Road Bombed

LD271101 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Central News Unit, quoting the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, reports that at 0940 yesterday, an enemy MIG-23 plane was downed by the antiaircraft defense units in the "Val-Fajr-9"operational area. The broken body of its pilot was found at the side of the plane.

Reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters indicate that the fast fliers of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran heavily bombed enemy troop and weapons concentration points along the strategic Al-Faw-Basra road at 0830 this morning. At 0930 the courageous pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran also heavily bombed the command posts and troop concentration points along the Al-Bihar-Basra road, inflicting considerable damage and casualties on the enemy. Our planes, having completed their missions, returned unharmed to their bases.

Commentary on U.S. Efforts To 'Interfere' in Gulf

GF221818 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1430 GMT 22 Mar 86

[From the "Political Follow-Ups" program]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration was not able to conceal its concern over the victories achieved by the Islamic forces in the "Val-Fajr-8" and 9 operations. In order to find a justification for relieving its pent-up zeal, the administration announced its desire to interfere in the interests of the Gulf countries. It used the excuse that the war between Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran might expand, as if the United States is more concerned about the safety and security of the Gulf than the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is linked to the people of the region through very strong bonds and relations.

The Islamic Republic, which knows very well the meaning and dimensions of U.S. statements, has affirmed through its Foreign Ministry that U.S. threats to interfere in the region's affairs have no justification and are totally rejected. They are part of the comprehensive hostile policy of the United States against the Islamic world. While the United States might have been able to practice gunboat diplomacy against others and succeed, the Iranian people see nothing in this hostile policy but a challenge which deserves mobilization of efforts to sharpen the determination of this people to confront the U.S. Administration's attempts at hegemony.

As the Islamic Republic stands with determination before the U.S. blackmail policy, it declares and affirms that respect for all countries' right to sovereignty and noninterference in the affairs of others are two basic principles of the Islamic Republic's policy. This has been affirmed by past actions and will be affirmed by future events. The reasoning behind this policy is that, while dealing with others, both enemies and friends, the Islamic Republic resorts to the Islamic Shari'a and to its legitimate principles which are based on respecting the rights of other and which forbid violation of those rights.

The Islamic Republic — while it affirms that it harbors no ill will against any of the region's countries, or against those who do not aggress against it or cause further damage to it — firmly declares that it will not remain silent before those who do not respect its rights. It also affirms to the U.S. Administration that the Muslim Iranian people, who ridiculed U.S. threats before and after the victory of the revolution, are today more determined to confront the Americans and crush their arrogance, not because we wish to expand the war, but because we have the right to defend ourselves and the dignity of our people and holy places, which the Americans wish to violate.

As the United States announces that it is in charge of the affairs of the region's people and that it has the right of guardianship over the region's countries, the sons of the Gulf region must respond to this, because politically, this only means that the United States does not take seriously the willpower of these people and their right to self-determination and freedom to express their views and choices.

Kuwait, Saudi Arabia Urged To Be Practical on War

GF220609 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 22 Mar 86

[From "Behind the News" program]

[Text] Brothers, despite the strategic developments which the recent Islamic victories have brought about in the southern and northern sectors of operations, some Gulf countries continue to deal with the war in an unreasonable and illogical way — as if the war developments and the Baghdad regime's defeats have not taken place. In what follows, we discuss the stands of some Gulf parties.

If another party had been confronting the Baghdad regime, it would have dealt with some Gulf countries as parties involved in the fighting and would have regarded them as an enemy participating in the war. The reason is that the wheel of the 'Aflaqi aggression has been turning with the help of Gulf petrodollars. If it has not been for these petrodollars, the wheel of aggression would have stopped a long time ago and the fighting would have

ended. However, the aid extended by these parties — particularly economic and financial aid — has been the backbone and fuel of the aggression. This has reached the extent that one can say that Saddam is fighting with the help of the dollars of these parties, which kill the two Muslim peoples in Iran and Iraq. Despite this, Islamic forbearance and patience have been so great that the desire to preserve the region's security and stability overlooked even the irresponsible policies, which on several occasions almost drove the region toward an undesirable situation threatening security and peace, and the interests of the people, which those policies did not take into consideration at all when they linked themselves to the existence and future of the Baghdad regime.

There has been no backing down in our stand or any form of tactical calculation, or any calculation of the forces of the others who know their forces better than other people do. Our stands have proceeded from the Islamic spirit and the sincere desire to guarantee the region's security and stability, in addition to its people's interests.

Even if such a sincere attitude does not lead others to review their previous stands and adopt new ones, the latest developments on the warfronts could have constituted objective reasons to make the others reconsider their stands.

Previous years of aggression have brought forth indisputable constants which prove that the ruling regime in Baghdad is unstable are not likely to continue, and that the military developments on the warfronts, combined with internal effects, will lead to that regime's fall. The "Val-Fajr-8" and "Val-Fajr-9" operations have provided new proof of those constants, especially since these operations, particularly "Val-Fajr-8" operations, have taken place in an area that is militarily, economically, and politically strategic. The Islamic forces have crossed Shatt al-'Arab and penetrated the enemy's fortifications and strategic positions. At present, the Islamic forces stand to the south of Basra, after liberating the strategic Al-Faw port.

Logic and wisdom would require some Gulf countries to alter their policies and to reconsider their previous calculations, particularly as the Islamic state continues to assert that it wants nothing except to punish the aggressor and obtain its just conditions. However, what has happened is that these parties — Kuwait and Saudi Arabia — went too far, more than they should, in dealing with the developments of the Islamic-Ba'thist war. They went to the extent of inciting the spread of the war, by involving external Arab and international parties, through talk about Arab treaties and agreements or international interests.

Some parties, particularly these countries, may imagine that brandishing this card puts pressure on the Islamic Republic, forgetting that in our calculations we take into account only the logic of justice, right, and people's interests. Such cards are a threat to those countries, more than they are a threat to or a pressure on the Islamic Republic. The spread of the war, together with the intervention of foreign powers, signifies an uncalculated development to the arrogant powers and might lead to an all-out eruption among the peoples of the region, which in turn will lead to their total emergence from the sphere of arrogant influence. Have these countries taken this into consideration, or do they believe London's or Washington's reassurances and the possibility of intervention when required? If there are serious inclinations to preserve security and peace, then that will only take place within the region, not outside it. The people are concerned with regional security. No one else has the right to intervene or come close. Talk about security and peace and the perils that threaten the region remain false talk if they are not linked to a practical stand of dealing objectively with events, developments, and the situation, and action to eliminate the hotbeds of tension, disturbances, and anxiety embodied in the existence of the Baghdad regime. Will the others deal with the fact objectively and act to restore a normal atmosphere in view of the Islamic Republic's willingness to forget the past and turn over a new leaf of relations with these parties?

Opposition Official Says Regime To End in 2 Years

JN250804 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 25 Mar 86 pp 1,2

[By Rabab Mangu]

[Text] Amman — The Iranian national resistance movement against the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni has gathered "solid basis" within and outside Iran and expects to topple the regime in the next two years, a leader of the movement said Monday.

Nader Ravingadi, deputy speaker of the Paris-based National Iranian Resistance Council, also said the movement, under the leadership of Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi, "is the genuine Islamic resistance to Khomeyni and it will continue its ideological struggle until the Tehran regime is overthrown."

"We have gathered popular support and the number of our supporters have risen by 400 per cent" in the past years, Mr. Ravingadi told the *JORDAN TIMES* and *AL-RA'Y* in an interview in Amman.

Mr. Ravingadi is here to attend a symposium on means to end the five-and-a-half-year-old Iran-Iraq war. The symposium, entitled "No-For-War, Yes-For-Peace," opens here today under Royal patronage.

Referring to the course of the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. Ravingadi said Iranian forces "have been dealt severe blows by the Iraqis" and that "a further radical change in the interest of the Iranian opposition to Khomeyni" was in the offing.

He dismissed suggestions that the Iranian movement was allied with "foreign powers" and said the movement "depends mainly on material and moral support from active Iranian followers within and outside Iran."

In reply to a question on the Iranian resistance movement's relations with Iraq and Arab countries supporting Iraq, Mr. Ravingadi said: "Although our relations with the international community are not so strong we enjoy good ties with Iraq and Jordan and we hope to establish similar relations with Saudi Arabia."

"All Islamic countries are our brothers," he added.

"Our good relations with Iraq were underlined when Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with Mr. Rajavi in Paris in 1982 and drew up a peace plan to end the Iran-Iraq war," he said. "The plan was approved by the Iraqi policy-makers as a basis for establishing peace between Iran and Iraq."

Mr. Ravingadi dismissed reports that the Iranian resistance movement's relations with the Soviet Union were bad but did not elaborate. However, he said, "we seek to establish good relations with all countries after toppling the Khomeyni regime."

"Our political activity covers a very broad range, particularly in Europe," he said. "We owe the strength of our movement to the large number of our supporters."

Replying to further questions, the Iranian resistance leader said: "All enemies of Khomeyni are our friends."

Commenting on the support that his movement enjoys within Iran, Mr. Ravingadi said "more than 90 per cent of the Iranian population are behind us and more than 40 per cent of the Iranian Army support us."

He said the Khomeyni regime executed 50,000 opponents and jailed 140,000 people since it took power in 1979. He said he expected a further escalation in internal Iranian opposition to the revolutionary regime as a result of continued oppression.

The symposium which opens here today is organised by the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO). ALO Director General al-Hashimi al-Banani said on Monday the selection of Amman as the venue for the symposium was not by chance or an offhand selection. "Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, has been a pioneer in adopting all initiatives that contribute to healing the rift among brothers either in the Arab World or at the Islamic level," Mr. al-Banani said.

Tudeh-Turkish Communist Party Statement Noted

TA252035 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary: "Progressive Forces Condemn the Islamic Regime's Warmongering Policy"]

[Text] According to *NAMEH-YE MARDOM*, central organ of the Iranian Tudeh Party, a meeting was held some time ago between delegations of the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party. A joint statement was issued at the conclusion of the talks between these two fraternal parties. We now bring to the attention of our dear compatriots prominent parts of this statement.

At the beginning of the joint statement, which is devoted to Iran's domestic situation, the two parties' delegations condemned the Khomeyni regime's reactionary and oppressive policy. The Turkish Communist Party delegation expressed its total support for the heroic struggle of Iranian communists and other patriotic forces to overthrow Iran's theocratic regime and establish a national democratic government that adheres to the principles of democracy, national independence, and social justice.

The Iranian Tudeh party and the Turkish Communist Party delegations regarded the devastating Iran-Iraq war as being totally counter to the interests of the two countries in conflict and considered it a war that is only to the benefit of imperialism and regional reaction. The two sides declared that the solution of differences between Iran and Iraq is possible only through peaceful and direct talks between the two governments. The representatives of the said parties justly believe that the first step toward this end is the declaration of an immediate cease-fire on the entire war fronts. The Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party delegations agreed that Turkey's present regime is a fascist regime that implements a repressive, antinational, and anticommunist policy which violates the most elementary rights and interests of the Turkish people. The joint statement says that Turkey's present government is playing the role of imperialism's fifth column in its relations with Iran. The Turkish Government is striving to mend the damaged bridges between the Islamic Republic and its own allies in NATO. The Iranian Government, in its turn, is welcoming these efforts and is moving toward this same path.

The delegations of the two fraternal parties, namely the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party, reviewed the Kurdish people's struggles for the achievement of their national rights, and while stating that they explicitly adhere to the Marxist-Leninist principle of the right of nations to determine their destiny, declared that they condemn the antidemocratic policy of the present leaders of Iran, Turkey, and Iraq with regard to the Kurdish people and fully support the Kurdish people's struggle for the achievement of their national rights. The Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party delegations then dealt with international problems and considered the struggle for peace as the most sublime duty of progressive and revolutionary forces throughout the world. They expressed their total support for the proposals of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the gradual reduction of nuclear arsenals and their complete extermination by the year 2000. The two parties' representatives also condemned the Reagan government's policy in connection with the militarization of outer space.

At the conclusion of the joint statement by the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party said: The United Nations has unanimously declared 1986 as the Year of Peace. The Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party announce their resolute decision to participate actively in this struggle, and are ready to carry out their duty for the attainment of this most sublime and important cause of our era, namely the cause of peace. These were parts of the joint statement by the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Turkish Communist Party delegations that was published a while ago in *NAMEH-YE MARDOM*, central organ of the Iranian Tudeh Party. Our homeland's people are once again witnessing that despite all futile attempts and savage onslaughts by rulers of the Islamic regime, the Iranian Tudeh Party — the party of our homeland's working class — is continuing its struggles for freedom, independence, social justice, and for the prosperity and happiness of our homeland's toilers. There should be no doubt that the Iranian Tudeh Party, together with other progressive and patriotic forces, will fulfill its historic role in the struggles of our homeland's people for the establishment of a national democratic government.

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MARCH 1986

Libya

Commenting on the U.S. decision to terminate the 6th Fleet's exercises off the Libyan coast, Tripoli television noted JANA's political editor's view that U.S. officials were "compelled" to withdraw the 6th Fleet because Libya's "firmness" and "brave defiance" had led to an "acute military confrontation which the Americans did not take into account." The political editor also maintained that support for Libya throughout the world had a "decisive effect" in forcing the cancellation of the U.S. exercises. Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio likewise spoke of a "glittering victory" in the Gulf of Sidra, claiming that the Libyans were able to "match" the United States, "which they fought and triumphed over."

The radio again exhorted the Arab masses to destroy U.S. interests and targets in the Arab world, adding that no American in the region is an innocent visitor or a person without a "spying or sabotage mission." The radio also broadcast a support message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi from the Tunisian "revolutionary force," which declared its readiness to form "suicide squads."

As for Libyan losses in the U.S. attacks, TANJUG cited an eyewitness account that at least 8 Libyans were killed when their missile boat was hit, while JANA noted a Spanish press report that 16 Libyan sailors were rescued by a Spanish oil tanker.

Lebanon

A Lebanese Forces Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio accused the Syrian Army of participating in recent artillery attacks on Christian areas, causing "dozens" of casualties. The committee linked this military escalation with the series of car-bomb explosions in Christian districts. The statement reaffirmed the Lebanese Forces' willingness to take part in a cease-fire and urged Arab states to act quickly to stop Syrian military activity in Lebanon. The Lebanese Forces' accusations followed further shelling across combat lines in the Al-Matn area, according to Beirut radio.

In Israel's security zone, an army of southern Lebanon soldier was killed by a roadside bomb 28 March, Jerusalem radio reported. A PLO spokesman announced earlier that 10 people were killed and 12 were injured in the 27 March Israeli air raid on Fatah targets near Sidon, Radio Monte Carlo noted. Fatah claimed responsibility for the katyusha attack on Qiryat Shemona that morning, according to AFP.

For Israel's part, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated that the air raid was part of Israel's campaign to prevent incidents like the attack on Qiryat Shemona, IDF radio reported. Commenting on the raid, Jerusalem radio said that nearly 1,000 "terrorists" from various Palestinian organizations have returned to the Sidon area.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian air defenses shot down three Iraqi MIG-23's when Iraqi aircraft attacked a "huge" Iranian naval convoy crossing the Gulf 27 March, Iran announced in a war report broadcast by Tehran television. Although the report maintained that the convoy arrived safely at its destination on the Al-Faw peninsula, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio maintained that Iraqi planes "wiped out" the convoy, which consisted of seven large supply ships escorted by nine other boats. The Iraqi communique also announced Iraqi air raids on the Ganaveh oil terminal and on three Iranian military camps.

In another communique broadcast by the radio, the Iraqi command claimed successes on the northern front, asserting that Iraqi troops recaptured 14 "strategic" mountain peaks from the Iranians in a "stormy, sweeping attack" 27-28 March.

Israel-Egypt: Taba Talks

No progress was made in the latest round of Taba talks as the Egyptians went back on a previous agreement and hardened their position, Jerusalem radio reported. Nevertheless, Israeli delegation leader Avraham Tamir stressed that the situation is not critical, asserting that it "should not be regarded as a catastrophe" if the dispute is referred to the Inner Cabinet following the next round of talks in Cairo, according to *HA'ARETZ*.

Algerian-Soviet Relations

Reporting on Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's talks with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, Algiers radio noted that the two sides signed a long-term program for economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation, adding that they also expressed satisfaction with the "excellent" state of bilateral relations. In related remarks broadcast by the radio, the Algerian foreign minister disclosed that military issues were discussed in the talks on bilateral relations.

The Qatari paper *AL-RAYAH* reported earlier that Algeria is seeking to strengthen its air defenses by purchasing modern Soviet SAM's as well as a sophisticated French radar system, according to QNA.

PLO-Jordan

Jordanian authorities have denied a report by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA' that Jordan has asked the PLO to close its main* offices in Amman, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir disclosed in a statement cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Al-Wazir said Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has assured him that the *AL-ANBA'* story was unfounded.

Pakistan-DRA

The Soviet Union has given "very positive signs" of readiness to negotiate a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq stated in a *LE MONDE* interview cited by AFP. Meanwhile, a bomb explosion in a Peshawar refugee hostel killed or wounded 21 people, according to AFP, which noted that Pakistani police believe DRA secret agents were responsible. In another development, the Pakistani Foreign Office protested to the DRA over recent cross-border artillery fire which injured nine people, Karachi radio noted.

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Foreign Ministry Statement on U.S.-Libya Conflict

LD271910 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; date not given — read by announcer]

[Text] Based on reports from the world media, the actions of the United States against the independence, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and against its patriotic and anti-imperialist leadership have recently reached a dangerous level; this is a result of the aggressive military operations against this developing and nonaligned country. The U.S. Navy and Air Force exercises in and around the Libyan coastal waters were carried out as a pretext for a clash with Libya and have recently been transformed into direct military aggression. This clear aggression takes place in continuation of terrorist activities against the Libyan leadership which follows a progressive and anti-imperialist policy, democratic objectives, and independent growth.

The recent U.S. Navy operations against Libya are examples of state terrorism which follow the failure of the Washington administration to exert economic pressure and intimidation by military exercises, false accusations against the Libyan leadership, and other hostile actions; this failure is due to the brave and just resistance of the Libyan people and leadership. All these actions show that without paying attention to peace-loving public opinion Washington is still willing to disrupt the security and stability of North Africa.

The recent aggressive action by Ronald Reagan's administration against the fraternal Libyan country contravenes the accepted norms and recognized principles of interstate rights and is an open violation of the UN Charter, the objectives and principles of the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic Conference Organization, and the Organization of African Unity.

The recent U.S. military aggressions against Libya once again show that the Washington leadership only talks about the need to solve regional tension in the world but in practice fans the flames of such tensions. By doing so it not only disturbs the tranquillity of these regions but also endangers international peace and security. The DRA strongly condemns this U.S. aggression, as this U.S. act has also been condemned by progressive and peace-loving forces in the world, liberation movements, and aware mankind. The DRA, which itself has become the target of aggression by imperialism and its agents, wants an immediate end to the U.S. aggression and provocation in the internal affairs of Libya and demands that the officials in the Washington administration stop continuing hostile and provocative actions against Libya. By expressing solidarity and fraternity with the Libyan Arab nation, the Government and people of the DRA announce that they stand beside them in these difficult times and resolutely demand an immediate end to such open aggression against Libya.

FRG Envoy Summoned To Protest Bundestag Talks

LD271732 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the FRG Embassy was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1230 today and the following protest note was handed to him by the director of the Fifth Political Section:

Notwithstanding the repeated reminders by the DRA authorities concerning the broader organization of the anti-Afghan subversive activities in the FRG, recently the right-wing political circles of that country initiated so-called talks on the Afghanistan question in that country's parliament — the Bundestag. A number of counterrevolutionary professional saboteurs and reactionary elements condemned by history took part as specialists in this propaganda meeting, where the anti-Afghan and inhuman foul aims of continuing the reactionary and imperialist undeclared war against the DRA were crystal clear.

Also the ambassador of the military and antipeoples regime of Pakistan was allowed, through lies and untrue utterences, to justify the sins of its government's open interference and aggressions against the DRA and ask its reactionary and interventionist friends for further assistance.

The official FRG authorities in accordance with the hostile policy of that government's country against the DRA, by convocating such anti-Afghan meetings, follows the policy of the U.S. Government in this regard. The remarks of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG minister of foreign affairs, on 20 March 1986, and the participation of Stavenhagen Lutz, minister of state in the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs, are outstanding examples of this.

The adventurist and extremist FRG political circles are distorting the truth by spreading fabrications and lies such as the violation of human rights in Afghanistan. In order to prevent the decisive and inevitable elimination of the traitorous counterrevolutionary bands they ask their reactionary friends for assistance.

The visit by such notorious elements as Volker Neumann, a member of the Bundestag, to Pakistan and his illegal and provocative entry in to DRA territory proves well how the rights of working peoples and their national sovereignty are trampled by the legislative representatives of the FRG who claim to support human rights.

The DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemns the provocative and hostile actions by the official authorities of that country as an open and brazen interference in the internal affairs of the DRA and therefore lodges the strongest protest. It demands that the FRG Government firmly refrain from such interference in order not to further aggravate relations between the two countries by those sort of deeds.

PDPA Central Committee Holds 17th Plenary Session

LD272325 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1530 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The 17th plenary session of the PDPA Central Committee was held this morning. It discussed the historic 27th Congress of the CPSU — the congress of peace, progress, and creativity — the current duties of the PDPA, and the basic stages of the DRA's socioeconomic development for this year.

Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, presented the basic report of the plenum as the first item on the agenda.

In this report, Babrak Karmal pointed to the historic importance of the 27th CPSU Congress in the struggle for peace and the prevention of a nuclear war, and the creation of a universal system for international security. He stressed that special attention was devoted to the increasing role of the national emancipation movements and to national and democratic revolution in the political report of M.S. Gorbachev. He said the PDPA has fully and completely approved this report, particularly the principled stand of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government in relation to the issue around Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal analyzed and assessed the implementation of the decisions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum and specified the current duties of the party, the government, the social and economical organizations, and the armed forces in the socioeconomic, political, and military fields.

Zohur Razmju, candidate member of the Politburo, secretary of the Kabul City party committee and head of Kabul district; Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs; Engineer Nazar Muhammad, minister of construction affairs; Muhammad Faruq, general commander of the DRA border troops; and Muhammad Sharif, secretary of the Balkh Province party committee, discussed the basic report and approved it.

The draft resolution of the 17th PDPA Central Committee Plenum as the first item on the agenda was then unanimously approved.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, then presented a report about the second item on the agenda.

Sahar Pordeli, chairman of the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions; Sher Jan Mazduryar, minister of transport; Khoday Nur Bawar, chairman of the DRA peasants cooperatives; Engineer Aziz, minister of light industries and foodstuff; Jalal, governor of Herat Province; and Faruq Pasdar, secretary of Baghlan province party committee, then spoke about the first and second items on the agenda. They expressed full support and approval of the first and second items on the agenda.

The work of the 17th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee ended in the afternoon after the concluding speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Heads and deputy heads of PDPA Central Committee's departments; heads of districts; secretaries of provincial party committees; members of the Council of Ministers; chairmen of executive committees; provincial governors; and a number of party cadres also took part in the work of the plenum.

A summary of Babrak Karmal's basic report and the report by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, presented to the 17th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, will then be published in the press.

SPA: Mujahidin Attack Jalalabad Airport 18 Mar

GF271256 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, 27 Mar (SPA) — Afghan mujahidin on 18 March attacked Jalalabad Airport in eastern Afghanistan, destroying two helicopters and five tanks.

The Afghan news agency, AAP, stated that a newly built terminal at the airport also was destroyed.

A group of mujahidin armed with BM-12 rockets on the same day attacked a detachment of the Afghan Government Army in Jalalabad, killing several soldiers.

Reports on Reaction to U.S.-Libya Dispute

Official Spokesman Comments

BK271540 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1501 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Briefing newsmen on 27 March, the official spokesman said that the Libyan charge d'affaires today met Secretary (external relations), N.P. Jain and apprised him of the situation following attacks by the United States on Libyan patrol boats and a missile battery in Libyan territory. Jain drew his attention to the statement issued on 26 March and also to discussions held in the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau meeting at New York which met under the chairmanship of India on 26 March 1986 and passed a resolution on this situation. The U.S. ambassador separately met the foreign secretary today and the foreign secretary reiterated India's grave concern at the attacks on Libyan missile patrol boats as well as a missile battery in Libyan territory.

The Soviet ambassador today called on External Affairs Minister Bali Ram Bhagat and apprised him of Soviet concern.

The External Affairs Minister also referred to India's grave concern at developments.

Nonaligned Bureau Statement

BK271543 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1457 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Following is the text of the communique adopted by the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] Coordinating Bureau in its meeting held at New York on March 26 regarding the situation in the central Mediterranean:

"The Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non Aligned countries met in urgent session in New York on 26 March to consider the grave situation which has arisen in the central Mediterranean. It heard a statement by the representative of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah concerning United States provocations and aggressions against the Jamahiriyah and the grave violation of territorial integrity of that country. The bureau noted with grave concern recent United States manoeuvres in the Gulf of Sidra and attacks on Libyan vessels as well as Libyan territory. These acts of aggression posed a serious threat not only to regional security but also to international peace and stability.

The bureau recalled that the heads of state or government of non aligned countries meeting in New Delhi in 1983 had noted with concern 'that policies of intervention and interference, pressure and threat or use of force continued to be pursued against many non aligned countries with dangerous consequences for peace and stability' and had called upon all states 'to abide by the principle that force or threat of force will not be used against territorial integrity or political and economic independence of states.' It further recalled that in its meeting of 6 February 1986 the bureau had 'cautioned against any precipitate steps by the United States of America as such situations were best resolved through dialogue and not through pressure or use of force.'

The bureau also recalled the resolution adopted by foreign ministers of the Arab League council at its 85th session held in Tunis from 24 to 26 March 1986 which had forcefully condemned the use of aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah considering it as a grave violation of the sovereignty, independence and safety of the Libyan country.' [quotation mark as received]

The bureau expressed grave concern over the provocations and use of force against the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The bureau condemned these acts of aggression which created a dangerous escalation of the situation in the central Mediterranean and endangered international peace and security. The U.S. action was all the more condemnable since by virtue of its position as a permanent member of the Security Council it has primary responsibility for maintenance of international peace and stability and to abide by principles of the UN Charter.

The bureau demanded an urgent cessation of military operations that endanger the peace and security of the region and particularly the security and territorial integrity of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah as well as international peace and stability. It affirmed its full support for and solidarity with the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, a fellow non aligned country, in safeguarding its independence, stability, sovereignty and territorial integrity.' [quotation mark as received]

The meeting was chaired by Indian representative to UN Shrin Krishnan.

Punjab Cabinet Holds Emergency Meeting

Resolves to Fight Militants

BK271249 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Punjab cabinet in an emergency meeting in Chandigarh today reiterated the resolve of the state government to deal firmly with the antinational and antisocial forces indulging in disruptive activities. A meeting presided over by the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, called upon the Akali Dal and the people of Punjab to fight these forces and help in ushering in an era of peace and prosperity.

The cabinet condemned the attempts by an unruly mob to violate the sanctity of the Holla Mohalla [religious festival] congregation at Anandpur Saheb yesterday. It unanimously endorsed the stand taken by the chief minister in dealing with these disruptive elements who had been rejected by the people at the recent elections.

Chief Minister Comments

BK271617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The Punjab cabinet in an emergency meeting in Chandigarh today reiterated the resolve of the state government to deal firmly with the antinational and antisocial forces indulging in disruptive activities. The meeting presided over by the chief

minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, called upon the Akali Dal and the people of Punjab to fight these forces and help in ushering in an era of peace and prosperity.

The meeting regretted that at a time when the government is engaged in the task of healing the wounds, these elements have launched a selfish and ruthless campaign against the state itself.

Later, talking to newsmen Mr Barnala said that the police and paramilitary forces acted with full restraint. He said yesterday's incident seems to be preplanned action and the arrest of Mukham Singh has been used by them as an excuse. He denied that any state cabinet minister in the recent past met Mr Mukham Singh.

Mr Barnala declared that such incidents will not be tolerated in future and stern action will be taken against all disruptive forces. He said All India Sikh Student Federation and Damdami Taksal were allowed to hold congregation at Anandpur Saheb in keeping with the past democratic traditions.

Mr Barnala said intensive patrolling by police and paramilitary forces is being further strengthened and extended in some more districts.

The Punjab Pradesh [state] Congress-I Committee president, Mr Beyant Singh, has called upon the Akali Dal and all secular forces to fight against divisive forces unitedly and help restore communal harmony in the state. He was talking to newsmen after his visit to Ludhiana.

Spokesman on Police Shooting in Anandpur Saheb
BK270415 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] In Chandigarh, an emergency meeting of the Punjab cabinet is taking place later this morning.

As reported earlier, 5 persons were killed and 29 others injured, including 11 policemen, in the police firing on the unruly mob in Anandpur Saheb yesterday.

An official spokesman clarified that the All India Sikh Students Federation and the Damdami Taksal [Sikh fundamentalist religious school] activists had been inciting the people against the government on a diwan [religious seat] at Anandpur Saheb for the last 3 days. He said the activists gave an ultimatum to the government to release the Damdami Taksal leader, Mr Mokham Singh, by 1000 yesterday. Mr Mokham Singh and three others were arrested by the Amritsar police on Tuesday in connection with the case registered against them some time back. The spokesman said at about 1400 yesterday, these activists armed with swords and spears and firearms surged toward diwan organized by the Akali Dal. He said the mob was declared an unlawful assembly on the public address system, and efforts to control them through persuation, lathi [baton] charge, and lobbying of tear gas shells failed to control them. The spokesman said in view of the grave and eminent danger to the life and property, including those of the VIP's and the general public, the police resorted to firing to control the situation.

10 Killed in Ludhiana Shooting; Army on Alert
BK280904 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, 10 persons were killed and about 10 injured at Ludhiana when 5 youths, suspected to be terrorists, riding a motorcycle and scooter opened indiscriminate firing. The incident took place in the (Rishi) ground and Damoria bridge area early this morning. The district administration has clamped indefinite curfew on the city as a precautionary measure. The police in Ludhiana and surrounding areas have launched a manhunt for the culprits. An alarm has been sounded all over the state in view of this incident.

An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that additional police and paramilitary forces have been rushed to Ludhiana. He said the army has been asked to stand by. Meanwhile, curfew in Anandpur Sahib has been extended till Monday.

Five senior Akali leaders in a joint statement have called upon the people of the state to close their ranks and unitedly face the challenge posed by antinational elements to the security of the state. Signatories to the state are: the party president, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala; the former chief minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal; the former SGPC [Shiroamani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee — Sikh temples management], Mr G. S. Tohra; and the state minsiters, Mr Balwant Singh and Mr Suginder Singh. Expressing their concern at the Ludhiana shooting incident, they alleged that these forces are acting on behest of a foreign power. They appealed to the people to maintain their cool and exhibit total unity, solidarity, and determination in the face of the challenge posed by the enemies of the state's pace and prosperity.

Meanwhile, the chief minsiter, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has directed all units of Akali Dal to seek cooperation of all sections of society to maintain peace and amity in the state despite grave provocation. He gave a call for the closure of all shops and commercial establishments in the state today as a mark of sympathy and respect to the victims of terrorist violence.

In Jullundur, the relaxation in curfew had to be curtailed to 3 hours today following tension that developed in the city with the news of the shootout incident in Ludhiana. Relaxation for 6 hours was given earlier from 0700 in the old city. However, no untoward incident has been reported from curfew-bound aras.

Air Force Transport Plane Missing Since 25 March
BK271630 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] An AN-32 transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force [IAF] with seven crew is reported missing since the evening of last Tuesday [25 March]. The aircraft was on a flight from Muscat, Oman, to Jamnagar. The aircraft took off at 1328 hours Indian standard time [0758 GMT] from Muscat and made the last radio contact at 1445 hours. An aerial search was launched on Tuesday evening by the IAF and the Indian Navy aircraft. Naval ships in the area have also joined in the search operation. The police authorities in the coastal areas have been alerted. A court of enquiry has been ordered.

Editorial Urges Continuing Talks With Pakistan

BK271125 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 18 Mar 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Not Irretrievable"]

[Text] The Prime Minister's meeting with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr Junejo over the weekend in Stockholm provided a brief but useful opportunity for a frank exchange of views. Mr Gandhi plainly explained to Mr Junejo that it would be premature for him to visit Pakistan, which he is willing to do on principle, until there is clear evidence of satisfactory progress in the normalisation and improvement of Indo-Pakistani relations. In particular, he expressed misgivings about Pakistan's continued training of and assistance to Punjab terrorists, its stand on Jammu and Kashmir, and the lack of headway in implementing some of the other heads of understanding [as published] arrived at after the Delhi summit last December. According to Mr Gandhi, Mr Junejo said that his Government would do something about these matters. President Zia has meanwhile once again denied any Pakistani interference in (East) Punjab and reiterated that the Kashmir question has been "set aside" until other problems are resolved but that Islamabad's position is that the matter should be settled in accordance with the UN resolutions and the Simla Agreement.

Indian accusations and Pakistani protestations of innocence about interference in Punjab have been bandied about for months. More effectively, over the past week BSF [Border Security Force] patrols have killed seven "miscreants", said to be Pakistanis, trying to cross the Punjab and Jammu border; two suspected terrorist infiltrators were apprehended, while a number of other intruders have been engaged and either injured in firing or beaten back. This is a welcome new development and indicates greater vigilance and determination in plugging what has been all too porus a border. Sustained action of this kind will soon exact a price that terrorists or other intruders will no longer be willing to pay for any purpose or at anybody's behest. As for Jammu and Kashmir, the UN resolutions are dead and nothing can revive them. The removal of the G.M. Shah government is only a first step towards cleaning up the internal mess that was wilfully created in the State. The Simla Agreement calls for a peaceful bilateral settlement of the Kashmir question. Follow-up on the trade talks Mr V.P. Singh had with Dr Mahbubul Haq has been slow and there is as yet no evidence that Pakistan is moving to reopen the Munabao-Khokrapar railway between Rajasthan and Sind as decided. This is disappointing but, hopefully, not irretrievable. Pakistan's expression of concern for the mincrities in India and Mr Baliram Bhagat's sharp rejoinder should close that chapter as both sides are pledged not to interfere in the internal affairs of the other. One unfortunate consequence of Pakistan's comments on recent riots in India, however, has been attacks on minority groups in Sind and, apparently, a yet tiny trickle of some frightened families into Rajasthan. This is a dangerous development and must be firmly nipped in the bud.

President Zia has admitted to a "cooling off" in Indo-Pakistan relations but no reverse as such. It is necessary to retrieve lost ground. For this, the Pakistan Government needs to ponder what Mr Gandhi told Mr Junejo and review its stance and strategy. The plea by opposition elements in Pakistan that India rebuff President Zia and refuse to negotiate a treaty of non-aggression, friendship and cooperation is, however, mistaken and should be ignored. Nothing is to be gained by such a stand-off. Nor should the machinery of the joint commission be allowed once more to creak to a standstill. Howsoever slow and painful the movement, there is only one sane direction in which to move: forward.

PATRIOT Views Effort for Khalistan-Tamil Link Up

BK271406 Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Hypocritical"]

[Text] The offer of the U.S.-based Khalistani protagonists to help secure a "separate homeland" for Sri Lanka Tamils is utterly cynical. The hypocrisy of this proposition, apart from its extremely dangerous implications, is so palpable that the Tamils in exile in India had no hesitation in categorically rejecting it forthwith. The so-called offer was made by retired Indian army general and secretary of the self-styled World Sikh Organisation, Jaswant Singh Bhullar. The platform for this mischief was provided by an outfit which describes itself as "Hindustan Front" as has been improvised by Dr Subramaniam Swamy. After serving as the economic brains trust of the then Jana Sangh and later doing a stint with the Janata Party, Dr Swamy returned to where his heart belongs, that is, Harvard. The crocodile tears shed for the sufferings of Lanka Tamils on this occasion could not hide the main objective of launching another round of anti-India campaign in the U.S. when the bait of "Khalistan" is wearing thin its spurious gloss among the Sikhs abroad. Having experienced a threat of their growing isolation in Britain and increasing apprehensions about their activities in Canada — the two hotbeds of anti-India conspiracy — the Khalistani protagonists are now engaged in an attempt to revive their anti-India propaganda campaign in the United States.

Dr Subramaniam Swamy's latest mischief is his plan to set up a committee in India to defend the "fundamental rights of the Sikhs abroad" who had left India in the wake of the Bluestar Operation. He did not, of course, disclose that dubious persons like Bhullar had left India before the Bluestar Operation, nor did he acknowledge the provisions of fundamental rights provided in the Indian Constitution which guarantee all that any group of people may aspire for. Of course, those who campaign day in and day out against the sovereignty, unity and integrity of their country cannot be allowed to cover their designs behind the facade of "fundamental rights". Moreover, it is now no longer a secret that there are forces in the U.S., starting from Campers' school for training armed conspirators, saboteurs and murderers, to more sophisticated official organs engaged in cover and overt attempts at destabilisation in India. Here is one more outfit subserving the same design.

The political objective of this mischievous attempt to link the Khalistani terrorists abroad and the cause of Sri Lanka Tamils in exile, is to embroil India somehow in Sri Lanka's ethnic turmoil and thus justify the activities of the Khalistani supporters. Neither the people in this country nor those who are fighting against the genocide of Sri Lanka Tamils can be made a pawn in this dangerous game.

Ziaul Haq Discusses Afghanistan, India

AU271615 Paris AFP in English 1608 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 27 (AFP) — The Soviet Union has given "very positive signs" of its readiness to negotiate a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said in an interview published Thursday in the Paris evening daily *LE MONDE*.

"The Soviet Union wants to cooperate in the search for a political solution" in Afghanistan, General Zia said, adding that Moscow "can not allow the existence of an Afghanistan that would be hostile to it."

"We say: 'The Soviets must withdraw, Afghanistan must be their friend, and the Afghans must be allowed to settle their own problems and choose the type of government they want,' " he said.

Asked if he thought Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev might review Soviet policy toward Afghanistan and consider the Soviet invasion a mistake, Gen. Zia said: "It is very possible that Mr. Gorbachev has changed his mind.

"Why oppose the rest of the world, why alienate Moslem countries and Southeast Asia with expansionist policies?" he asked.

On Pakistan's relations with India Gen. Zia said they were "subject to convulsions."

"But I am impressed by Mr. Gandhi," he added, referring to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

"I think our cooperation will become stronger the long run," he said. "Pakistan is not a threat to India."

Protest Lodged on Afghan Border Shelling

BK271732 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Afghan Armed Forces at 1600 hours on the 24th of this month fired 16 rounds of artillery which landed 7 miles north of Nawagai in (Bazmor) Agency. No casualties or damage were reported. Later, on the 26th of this month at 1630 hours the Afghan Armed Forces fired 12 rounds of mortar which landed in and around Chaman. As a result, nine civilians were injured.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the foreign office this morning and a strong protest was lodged over these unprovoked attacks.

Li Xiannian Arrives in Karachi for Overnight Stay

BK271720 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] President Li Xiannian of the People's Republic of China was given a rousing welcome when he arrived in Karachi tonight on a brief visit. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq received the Chinese president and Madam Li at the airport. Two children attired in national dress presented bouquets to the distinguished guest. The Sind governor, Lieutenent General Jahandad Khan, Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Sind cabinet ministers, senior officials, elected people's representatives, and Chinese diplomats were also present at the airport to greet the guest.

The Chinese president, who is accompanied by a 70-member entourage, is on his way back home from a 5-nation Asian and African tour which took him to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Somalia, and Madgascar. President Li will leave for Beijing tomorrow morning after an overnight stay in Karachi.

Leaves for Beijing

BK280617 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] President Li Xiannian of the People's Republic of China left Karachi for Beijing this morning after an overnight stay. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq; Sind Governor Lieutenent General Jahandad Khan, retired; Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan; provincial ministers; and high officials saw him off at the airport. Two children in traditional dress presented bouquets to the Chinese president and Madam Li. President Li Xiannian, who is accompanied by a 17-member entourage, is on his way back home from an Asian and African tour.

Bomb Explodes in Afghan Refugee Hostel in Peshawar

BK271505 Hong Kong AFP in English 1342 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Islamabad, March 27 (AFP) — A powerful bomb ripped through an Afghan refugee hostel in Peshawar Thursday, killing four people and injuring 17, police said.

The explosion at mid-day in the Nasir Hotel, known for serving traditional Afghan food, totally destroyed the two-storey hostel and restaurant. The device went off when Afghan refugees were crowding the restaurant for lunch.

Pakistani police believed Afghan secret agents placed the device, suspected by Pakistani officials to have been a Soviet-made time-bomb. According to police sources, the bomb was placed in the ground floor of the refugee-run hotel and the entire building has fallen into ruins. Police cordoned off the area and rescue work was in progress.

The dead were said to include three Afghan refugees. A majority of those wounded were also displaced Afghans sheltering in Peshawar, near the Afghan border. The blast followed an explosioin near a refugee commissioners office in Peshawar Wednesday night which wounded two Pakistanis, police said.

Karachi Notes Explosion

BK271519 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] According to a press note issued in Peshawar this evening 4 persons were killed and 14 others were injured in an explosion at a tea house in the Namakmandi market of Peshawar. The

injured were admitted to the Lady Reading Hospital where they are reported to be in satisfactory condition.

Opposition Party Seeks Ziaul Haq Court Martial

GF271615 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 22 Mar 86 p 1, 6

[Report by *JASARAT* correspondent]

[Excerpts] Haidarabad, 21 March -- Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, chief of Jamiat Ulema-e Pakistan, has said that if Prime Minister Junejo considers himself fully authorized and determined, then he should court martial army chief General Ziaul Haq, who has surrendered 300 square miles of Pakistani territory to India. He was addressing a large crowd today at the Qila ground.

He said that Pakistan was passing through a very sensitive period. We have today a president, a commander in chief and martial law, yet India not only occupies a 300-square mile area of Siachen Glacier, but is thinking of making further advances. Afghan aircraft have violated our territory 800 times but nobody challenges them. We strongly protest against this. Gen Ziaul Haq draws a salary of 4 crore of rupees a year. Now the nation must decide whether we need such a caretaker because we have seen that even in his presence thieves have been making inroads into our homes. He added that an inquiry should be launched into this wretched state of our defenses and the commander in chief of the army should be court martialed.

Maulana Noorani said: We tell those elements chanting the slogans of breaking Pakistan that they should leave Pakistan. God willing, Pakistan will never break. The nation has already seen the fate of those who have broken the country once. Those who are nourishing the idea of breaking it again will not escape the wrath of God Almighty. He added: We do not need the generals who draw millions of rupees as a salary and usurp the general public of their rights.

He said that a new martial law is still there in disguise. Since a commander in chief can impose martial law, therefore Gen Ziaul Haq is keeping the office of the chief of the army staff with him. Maulana Noorani added: We do not want the country to take the path of violence. We want to carry on the movement of peacefully implementing the prophet's system.

NEPAL

Editorial Views Trade, Cooperation Talks With PRC

BK271119 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 16 Mar 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Important Meeting"]

[Text] In view of the long history of cooperation between Nepal and China for the economic development of the Kingdom and the prospects for further increasing the economic and trade relations between the two countries, the second meeting of the Nepal-China Inter-Governmental Economic and Trade Committee scheduled to begin here today (Sunday) assumes great importance. Nepal and China have a long history of cooperation in the development activities. China has helped Nepal in its efforts for economic development in many ways. Some of the development activities implemented in Nepal with the assistance of China include the road construction, transport, water resources, industries, water conservancy and irrigation among others. During the first meeting of the committee held in Beijing in December 1984, China had shown interest in Nepal's proposal for joint investment in or concessional loans for setting up of industries designed to produce import substitutes in Nepal. In the industrial field China has also helped Nepal set up the Bansbari leather and shoe factory, Hetauda cotton textile industry, brick and tile factories, among others.

Nepal's exports to China in the year 1982-83 amounted to about 700 thousand rupees. Imports from China totalled 458 million rupees that year. Although imports have fallen to 255 million rupees in 1984-85, the export scenario has not been satisfactory as it leaves a wide trade deficit for Nepal. However, these figures do not include Nepal's trade with Tibet Autonomous Region of China. The Chinese delegation headed by the Assistant Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr Wang Wendong, has already arrived in Katmandu for the meeting. The Assistant Finance Minister, Mr Daman Dhoj Chand, is to lead the Nepalese delegation at the talks. The meeting beginning today is an appropriate forum to discuss the possible ways and means by which to correct the trade situation on the one hand and further develop them in the future on the other, besides discussing other areas of economic cooperation. Since Nepal is trying to develop import substitute and export oriented industries to promote exports and reduce imports and offers a number of incentives for joint investment in industrial ventures in the country, the meeting is yet another occasion to discuss future cooperation between the two countries in this direction as well. Given the friendly relations subsisting between Nepal and China there is every reason to hope that the meeting will be a successful one.

SRI LANKA

Talks With Tamils Reportedly To Begin 30 Mar

BK251524 Hong Kong AFP in English 1510 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Madras, India, March 25 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government is trying to reach an accord with Tamil separatists without Indian involvement and fresh talks will likely begin in Bangkok Sunday [30 March], Tamil sources said here Tuesday.

But major Tamil groups involved in earlier talks dissociated themselves from the reported move.

The sources said Sri Lanka National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali was sounding out various Tamil separatist groups through a London-based body on the move.

They identified the new mediatory organisation involved as Quaker Peace and Service, a quasi-religious body, and said the talks were likely to begin in Bangkok on Sunday.

No immediate comment was available on the report from Indian or Sri Lankan officials.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi succeeded in bringing the half-dozen major separatist groups and Colombo to direct negotiations last year in Thimpu. Two rounds of talks were held in the Bhutanese capital in June and August but they broke up without an agreement.

Observers said the reported Colombo move to resume talks with the Tamils without Indian involvement — for the first time since the ethnic problem erupted in Sri Lanka — followed Delhi's repeated firm statements recently accusing Sri Lankan troops of attacking innocent Tamils.

India said it would no longer take any role in a negotiated settlement unless the killings were stopped.

But all the major Tamil groups who took part in the Thimpu rounds of talks have firmly dissociated themselves with the reported Colombo move.

The sources said the Peace and Services Asian Secretary, N. Pamamurthy, had contacted the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and other separatist group leaders living here on the Colombo plan. Mr Ramamurthy had sought their acquiescence to fresh talks without Indian involvement.

Spokesman for the TULF and the Eelam National Liberation Front, [ENLF] which groups four militant separatist bodies, stoutly denied their participation in the projected talks.

TULF Secretary General Appapillai Amirthalingam confirmed to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that such a move for talks was in the offing between Colombo and some leftist Tamil groups, but he did not name these groups.

K. Balakumar, official spokesman of the ENLF said there could be no talks as long as what he called the genocidal attacks on Tamils continued. He described any Tamil groups agreeing to talk with Colombo at this stage as traitors.

Defense Minister Sends Message of Support to Libya

LD271826 Tehran IRNA in English 1814 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — Iranian defence minister Thursday sent a message to the Libyan military commander-in-chief to announce the Islamic Republic's support for the anti-imperialist struggle of the Tripoli government.

In the message Colonel Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali said "The army of the Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to stand next to the Libyan nation and the Armed Forces of the Arab Republic of Libya."

"Defence in the face of this shameless (U.S.) agression is a duty for all Islamic and revolutionary nations. (They should) give a decisive answer to the cheeky actions of these arrogant leaders"

The message was addressed to Brigadier General Abu Bakr Jabir Yunis, the commander-in-chief of the Libyan Armed Forces.

Libyan and U.S. Armed Forces clashed this week over the so-called death line in the Gulf of Sidra drewn by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to mark his country's territorial waters.

Jalali said "The United States which openly fights liberation movements has not yet learnt its lesson from the slap it received in the face by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon".

Foreign Ministry Condemns Arab League Resolution

LD271418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement strongly condemning the Arab League resolution concerning the war imposed by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran announced its conditions for ending the war on the 1st day the Iraqi regime attacked the borders of our Islamic land along a front more than 1,000-km-long in an attempt to topple the Islamic Republic of Iran. This resulted in the occupation of more than 20,000 square km of our land. Today, nearly 6 years since the start of this cowardly aggression, Iran still reiterates the same points: The aggressor must be punished so that aggression is uprooted once and for all and the use of aggression as a way to solve problems is ended forever. Since the world is not prepared to administer justice to the aggressor, we are determined to do the job ourselves. In this connection, the Arab League resolution will do nothing to help end the war; instead, it makes the Islamic Republic of Iran more determined to continue its honorable defense, to put out the source of the fire, and to put an end to the conspiracy. From the Islamic Republic of Iran's point of view, this league, when faced with aggression by an Arab country against the territorial integrity of a country, which has defended the Islamic and Arab goal of liberating noble Jerusalem and annihilating the Zionist enemy since the establishment of the Islamic revolution, has only reacted with silence against aggression. Some Arab countries have even encouraged and aided the aggressor. Therefore, such a league is not competent to express a view on the future of the war and how to end it. It would be better if this league were to comment on the war crimes at least as much as other countries and organizations which do not believe in Islam at all but which, when confronted with the extensive war crimes committed by the Iraqi regime, have acknowledged them. The league should force the desperate Iraqi regime to observe Islamic, humanitarian, and international laws and regulations in connection with the war.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement adds: As we have stated before, we do not have a covetous eye for even one inch of Iraqi soil or that of our other neighboring countries. To repeat the statement that continuation of the war will present a threat to the littoral countries of the Persian Gulf is nothing but a trick to involve other countries in the war and to increase the U.S. presence in the region. Iran maintains that defending its territorial integrity and throwing the aggressor out of the remaining occupied areas is its legitimate right, and this policy will be continued until the aggressor is thoroughly punished. Just as we did not wait for organizations and leagues supporting arrogant powers to pass resolutions before throwing the aggressive enemy out of our land at the start of the war, we obviously will not place any value on such resolutions as we continue our justified defense and prevent foreigners from interfering.

The bitter experience of Palestine has taught us that pinning our hopes on political games in order to regain occupied land results in nothing but disgrace and degradation. The Arab League should realize that indulging in such discussions will not achieve anything for it. We advise the league to use a fraction of its efforts to fight the Zionist enemy and at least seriously confront those Arab leaders who degrade the Arab nation even further by recommending a plan for direct negotiations with the Zionist enemy leaders.

The statement says in conclusion: Countries supporting the Iraqi regime should know that Saddam and his 'Aflaqist party are living out their last days. Therefore, we advise all these countries to think of their future interests, instead of trying to protect this doomed regime, and not to endanger the basis for improving and expanding their relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

WIH Chief Interviewed on War, Recent Offensive

LD271909 Tehran IRNA in English 1814 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] London, March 27, IRNA — A senior Iranian official spoke confidently Thursday of victory against Iraq and said the removal of Saddam Husayn from power would be a first step towards the realization of the people's freedom in that country.

The recent Iranian offensive in southern Iraq "shows that this war can have a winner (and) those who are supporting the regime of Saddam Husayn have to think of the future and do not put too much hope on him," Dr. Kamal Kharrazi said.

Kharrazi, a member of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) and head of the War Information Headquarters [WIH] of the Islamic Republic, was speaking in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Asked whether Iran's conditions for ending the war were still the removal of Saddam and the destruction of the Ba'th Party, Dr Kharrazi said: "Certainly that has been one of our goals. If Saddam Husayn would be toppled down, that can be a very good step for the future.

"Basically our goal is to give this opportunity to the people of Iraq to decide their own government freely."

On fears in the Persian Gulf states of an Iranian victory, he replied: "We have declared our position officially that after the end of the war we won't have anything to do with other states and we will live together peacefully.

"The only thing that we want from them is to be neutral, not to support Saddam Husayn."

Dr Kharrazi said the United States, other Western governments and some Arab rulers in the region were backing Baghdad with arms and money. This, he said, would only jeopardize their future after Saddam's fall.

The SDC member said that international pressure that would lead to the condemnation, punishment and removal of Saddam "would be instrumental in solving the problem and ending the war."

SAIRI Leader To Station Troops on Newly Won Land

LD271626 Tehran IRNA in English 1549 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — A leader of Iraqi opposition movement said Thursday he plans to station his troops in the recently liberated Iraqi territory on the Iranian border.

Mohammad Hakim, the head of the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution of Iraq, told thousands of Iraqi POW's in a Tehran POW camp that (SAIRI) forces will be stationed in the liberated areas if political circumstances allow.

Recently the future leader of the Islamic revolution, Ayatollah Montazeri had called on Iraqi dissident groups here to take an active role in running the affairs of the liberated lands.

Hakim whose SAIRI forces are stationed in the southern marshlands and the northern Kurdistan mountains said the recent offensives inside Iraqi territories had "shaken the Iraqi regime from within".

Earlier one POW-spokesman told the gathering his comrades wish to be mobilized for war. "Iraqi prisoners call on the great leader, Imam Khomeyni, to be mobilized and sent to the war fronts to bring down the corrupt regime of Saddam".

The POW's wearing grey uniforms and squatting on blankets in front of their double bunker beds shook their fists in approval. Officials said the POW's are between 13 and 70 years of age. Wearing the long robe and the black turban of Muslim alems, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim also said SAIRI forces recently (?blew up) offices of the Ba'th ruling party in Al-Nasiriyah killing a group of officials.

Mohammad Hakim is the son of late Ayatollah Mohsen Hakim, one of Iraq's top theologians who led opposition to Iraq's leftist governments.

He formed SAIRI in 1982 in Tehran in an effort to bring together Iraqi Muslim forces fighting the Iraqi Ba'th regime. The assembly calls for a military solution to the Iraqi regime.

SAIRI Calls On Clergy To Strike Saddam

LD271932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq issued a statement calling on all Iraqi refugees and seminarists studying in religious seminaries to mobilize in order to deal the final blow to the expiring body of Saddam. According to a Central News Unit report, the statement referred to the recent statement by the imam of the Islamic nation in which he graciously commanded: Our young people have now risen, but this does not mean that others should be deprived of chanting: God is great! He called on each and every Iraqi brother mujahid who has escaped with his life from the iniquity and oppression of the Ba'thist criminals to carry out his responsibilities and to take part in liberating his homeland!

In this statement, the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iraq called on fighting Iraqi clergymen to increasingly acquaint the people with their duties and elucidate their canonical responsibilities because, according to the imam of the Islamic nation, as long as this 'Aflaqite party exists we will wage war in defense of Islam!

Kurdish Attacks on Iraqi Targets Detailed

2 'Stations' Destroyed

LD271916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] During an attack on Ba'thist forces' stations, named (Sabzi Los) and (Gol Mohammad Aqa) in the mountains north of Irbil, Iraqi Kurdish Hezbollahi peshmerga destroyed the two stations. According to reports, the Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga also opened fire on another enemy base near the Sidakan district and killed more than 10 of the Saddamist forces.

'Strategic Positions' Captured

LD271921 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Iraq's strategic military positions in the Zakho region fell to the Muslim Iraqi Kurdish revolutionaries and were captured by the Muslim forces. According to an IRNA report, in their attacks on several military bases of the Saddamist regime in the Zakho region, over the past 3 days, the Muslim revolutionaries inflicted heavy damage on (Aqqi) and (Rastiki) bases and also on the outposts of (Garisifun) and (Simanka). In their attack on the (Usafi) base, all the troops there were killed and the equipment

of the Ba'thist enemy was destroyed and the base captured. During these operations a large amount of weapons and arms fell into the hands of the Mulim revolutionary Kurds.

According to the same report, following these successful operations, the Iraqi regime in a fit of insane frenzy used four helicopters and heavy artillery to shell the villages of Jum-e Jahan, Al-Ghali, (Hisu), [name indistinct] and (Bishir), and inflicted losses and damage on them.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Commander Said Killed

LD271322 Tehran IRNA in English 1304 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya', March 27, IRNA — Iranian planes Thursday bombed Iraqi supply routes and command centers in southern war front while Iraqi POW's said one of their top military commanders has been killed in fighting in the area.

Reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' operational command said Iranian jet planes bombed the strategic Basra-Al-Faw highway at 8:30 (0530 GMT) creating "a hell of fire and smoke".

One hour later the bombers returned to hit Iraqi command and troop concentration centers on the Basra-Al-Bihar road.

Both warring countries have been reporting heavy fighting in Iraq's southern Al-Faw peninsula since early last month when Iran's Muslim combatants crossed the Arvand River and cut Iraq's access to open sea.

The Khatam ol-Anbiya' report said all Iranian planes returned safely to their bases after causing large casualties and extensive damages.

Meanwhile an Iraqi plane brought down near Al-Sulaymaniyah in northern Iraq Wednesday has been identified as a Soviet-built MIG-23. IRNA had earlier reported the downing of the aircraft and the death of its pilot.

In southern Iranian city of Ahvaz recently captured Iraqi POW's said Brigadier Khazr 'Ali Nasar, the commander of the First Brigade of the Presidential Guards, has been killed in fighting in Al-Faw.

They said the brigadier, a brother to Iraq's Minsiter of Trade Hasan 'Ali [al-Amiri], had led several unsuccessful counteroffensives in the area. Nasar, a member of the Joint Staff, has been buried in Baghdad.

On Wednesday Iraq's Defence Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah [Talfah] said his planned Al-Faw counter-offensives against Iranian forces will "take a long time". The comment indicates the Iraqi Command has lost hope in the battle of Al-Faw.

Saddam started the war in September 1980 in what he called a three-day blitz.

Communique No 2422

LD271653 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, MARCH 27, IRNA — Artillery guns of the Islamic Republic Thursday pounded Iraqi industrial and economic installations in the western front and continued duels in other sectors of the 1,200 km confrontation line.

The daily war comunique here said the "destructive fire of the Islamic combatants damaged the industrial and economic installations of Naft Khaneh and Banmil".

Artillery and aerial bombardment of industrial and military centers has flared up recently.

The communique said some 15 Iraqi troops were killed and 45 other wounded when their bunkers were raided by Iran's Muslim combat-patrols in the Kharratha region of the western front.

But it added that two Iraqi patrols in Kani-Sheykh and Salehabad of the western front and another patrols in (Harnah) regior of the northern front were forced to flee the fire of the combatants.

Four Iraqi troops were captured in the southern front when they tried to infiltrate Iranian positions.

The Joint Staff headquarters issues a communique every day to report latest developments of the battle that has been raging between the two countries for the past five and half years.

The Communique Number 2422 said light and heavy weaponary duels continued between the two sides on all fronts.

Fighting was reported heavier near the towns of Sumar, Naft Shah and Qasr-e Shirin in the west, and in the regions of Sharhani, Chazzabeh, Talaiyeh and (Khejbar) Islands of the south.

3 Iraqi MIG's Downed

LD271844 Tehran IRNA in English 1839 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — Three Iraqi war planes were downed Thursday over the Persian Gulf during a large supply operation by the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps.

The three Soviet built MIG-23 planes were shot down as the IRGC [Islamic Revolution Guards Corps] moved "a large military caravan across the Persian Gulf" to the Al-Faw peninsula in southern Iraq, according to the Khatam ol-Anbiya' military headquarters.

"The planes of the Iraqi regime engaged the vessels of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps but were downed by heavy anti-aircraft fire" the command said.

Iran launched its Val-Fajr-8 (Dawn-8) offensive across the Arvand River early last month to capture the port city of Al-Faw and its surroundings.

Since the begining of the offensive Iran has reported downing 73 Iraqi aircrafts in the area.

Further on Air Attacks

LD271848 Tehran IRNA in English 1834 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — Iranian aircrafts bombed Iraqi artillery positions and concentration centers on the Basara-Bihar road at 11:15 (07:45 GMT) Thursday, a report from Khatam ol-Anbiya' military headquarters said.

The fighters later bombed Iraqi armoured units and concentration centers on the Al-Faw-'Umm Qasr highway in Iraq's southern Al-Faw peninsula at 14:30 (11:00 GMT).

Government Worker Reportedly Stage Slowdowns

GF271751 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] According to one of our correspondents from the capital, protests from government employees — due to their maltreatment by the regime — is another problem gaining wider dimensions daily, which the ruling mullahs are unable to resolve. Our correspondent sent us a confirmed report stating that the employees of the Tehran area power department went on strike last Thursday following repeated work slowdowns to protest their remuneration and facilities. They requested that the Islamic government pay attention to their demands. During this time, the local komiteh officials — under instructions from the regime's energy minister Dr Banki — forced and threatened these employees to go to work. According to our correspondent, the situation in the Tehran power department is tense and it is likely there will be an exacerbation of the explosive situation in this sensitive government organization.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 MARCH 1986

Libya

One of two U.S. missiles aimed at a Libyan SAM-5 installation failed to explode and Libya intends to hand it over to the Soviet Union in order to "spite" the United States, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared in a 28 March speech broadcast by Tripoli television. The other U.S. missile exploded harmlessly, Al-Qadhdhafi maintained, adding that the United States "did not destroy" the SAM-5's because Libya "tricked" the U.S. electronic system. As for the second U.S. attack on the same target, he said that "if the 6th Fleet launched any other missiles, we did not see them and we did not hear about them." Al-Qadhdhafi also reaffirmed Libya's claim to have downed three U.S. jets, asserting that this caused the Americans to "go crazy" and take "revenge" by attacking Libyan shipping. Later in his remarks, Al-Qadhdhafi acknowledged that U.S. attacks hit a dredger, a patrol boat, and a tugboat.

Al-Qadhdhafi warned that Libya will challenge any future U.S. exercises in the Gulf of Sidra, and while acknowledging the U.S. ability to "sow destruction in Libya," he warned that "if we see that we are about to be finished, we shall take the American 6fh Fleet with us." On the Americans in Libya, he stressed that they are coming to no harm, claiming that they prefer to live in Libya rather than the United States, where people live in "poverty and misery" because the U.S. budget is spent on weapons. Al-Qadhdhafi thanked the Soviet Union for its political support in the conflict and he also praised Syria, which coupled verbal support with "positive and satisfactory action."

In the wake of Al-Qadhdhafi's speech the Libyan paper *AL-FAJR AL-JADID* announced that retaliatory actions against U.S. targets have begun, citing an operation against a U.S. officer in Italy as one example, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Earlier, JANA listed over 50 messages of support for Libya from various organizations throughout the world. One such message, broadcast by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland 27 March, came from the "revolutionary force in Oxford aerodrome, Britain," which declared its willingness to form "suicide squads" against the United States. British police subsequently announced an investigation into the group of Libyans at the air training school near Oxford, KUNA reported.

In other developments, Tripoli Domestic radio announced the PDRY foreign minister's arrival in Tripoli 30 March, noting his statement that the visit is to express the PDRY's solidarity with Libya against U.S. "aggression and against Libyan waters and sovereignty." In Riyadh, an "informed" Saudi source cited by the UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ* contended that Saudi Arabia is mediating to reduce tension between Libya and the United States. The source linked this with a recent visit by two Libyan envoys to Riyadh. The envoys delivered a message from Al-Qadhdhafi to the UAE president 30 March, Abu Dhabi radio noted.

Egypt

A 31 March *AL-AHRAM* report cited by Beirut radio claimed that Egypt has rejected three U.S. invitations to participate in a military attack against Libya. Egypt told U.S. envoys that it rejects using arms against any Arab country, *AL-AHRAM* said.

Sudan

The United States is "meddling in Sudan's internal affairs and trying to impose its hegemony and patronage over Sudan," Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah said in reaction to an announcement that the United States has halted its aid to Sudan in protest against Sudan's acceptance of Libyan military aid. In a statement to *AL-SAHAFAH* reported by SUNA, 'Abdallah said Libya has supplied "essential" aid to the Sudanese Air Force since the United States cut off military aid to Sudan in April 1985. 'Abdallah called on Sudanese "political forces" to denounce the U.S. aid cutoff, adding that Sudan will continue to search for alternative sources of military assistance.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked and destroyed Iranian troop concentrations near Panjwin, an F-5 near Reza'iyeh Lake, a bridge in Paveh region, and three "large boats" in the northern Gulf 29 March, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The communique also claimed that Iraqi naval forces attacked a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 28 March. An earlier communique broadcast by the radio announced that Iraqi planes destroyed a "huge military plane" at Reza'iyeh airbase, sank an Iranian supply vessel and two small boats in the northern Gulf, and attacked another "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast 28 March.

In related reports, Bahrain's *GULF DAILY NEWS* revealed that Iranian firefighting tugboats extinguished a fire which had broken on board the Liberian-flagged supertanker *Hawaii* after it was hit by an Iraqi Exocet missile south of Khark Island the night of 28-29 March. The Bahraini paper later reported that bomb disposal experts are to board the Norwegian supertanker *Berge King 31 March in order to defuse an unexploded Iranian* rocket which hit the vessel off the Qatari coast 30 March.

Meanwhile, An Iranian military spokesman cited by IRNA denied an Iraqi claim that Iraqi troops occupied "strategic heights" in northern Iraq 28 March, and IRNA later cited an Iranian communique which claimed that Iraqi troops had suffered "substantial casualties" in a major clash with Iranian troops in the Panjwin area. Tehran radio subsequently reported that Iranian planes inflicted "heavy losses" on Iraqi command posts and troop positions on the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis 30 March. In other reports, the radio claimed that naval forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps destroyed an Iraqi oil platform 29 March.

Lebanon

An Amal Movement statement broadcast by Beirut radio 30 March held Palestinian gunmen responsible for triggering armed clashes between Palestinian and Amal fighters which erupted around the Sabra and Shatila camps over the weekend. Accusing PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's followers of trying to drag Amal into a battle for the camps, the statement called on the Palestinian National Salvation Front, which opposes 'Arafat, to play a "more effective role" and take control of all weapons inside the camps. The fighting resumed 31 March after an overnight cease-fire, according to Voice of Lebanon radio, which said casualties from the clashes numbered 18 killed and 60 injured.

In another development, Damascus radio denied accusations that Syrian forces participated in recent artillery attacks on Christian areas, stating in a 29 March commentary that "those who wagered on Israel" are now "fabricating differences with Syria," which is "not involved" in the recent "security flareups."

As for southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio announced that katyusha rockets were fired across the border toward Upper Galilee the night of 29 March, causing no injuries. Two UNIFIL soldiers were killed in clashes with gunmen 28-29 March, according to a UNIFIL spokesman cited by Voice of Lebanon radio.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres intends to raise new ideas aimed at breaking the Mideast political deadlock during his forthcoming talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Jerusalem television reported.

PDRY Amnesty

A Supreme People's Council Presidium decree broadcast by Aden radio 29 March proclaimed a "general amnesty" for persons involved in "crimes connected with the conspiracy of 13 January." The amnesty applies to those who bore arms on behalf of "conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang," subject to a number of conditions, including a 60-day deadline for persons who have fled abroad to return.

The authorities released 720 persons from jail in the wake of the amnesty announcement, according to Aden radio.

Western Sahara

A Saharan Information Ministry statement cited by Algiers radio 30 March claimed that Polisario forces killed or wounded 46 Moroccans in an attack on a military base behind one of Morocco's defensive walls.

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Karmal Addresses Revolutionary Council

LD292212 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The regular session of the DRA Revolutionary Council was held this morning at the Delkosha Palace of the Revolutionary Council Headquarters chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

The agenda, which included assessments of the approval of the DRA socioeconomic development plan for 1 March 1986; assessments of the 1985 plan; assessments of the approval of the 1986 state budget the accomplishments of the 1984 [as heard] budget; and assessments of the report on the activities of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and the permanent commissions of the Revolutionary Council was unanimously approved by the members of the Revolutionary Council.

Then Babrak Karmal made an opening speech and said: Esteemed members of the revolutionary council, we are holding this session of the DRA Revolutionary Council at a very important time. Some time ago the 27th Communist Party Congress of the Soviet Union was held and the delegation of the PDPA also took part in its work at the invitation of the Soviet Union Communist Party Central Committee.

The people of Afghanistan support from the bottom of their hearts the comprehensive peace program by the Soviet Union.

Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev once again declared to all the world through the congress that the Soviet Union supports Afghanistan's efforts for the defense of its national sovereignty and is interested in a political solution for a real, and guaranteed safe end to foreign intervention.

All the people of Afghanistan are sincerely thanking the people of the Soviet Union for their all-around help, for the support of [word indistinct] matter in the repulsing imperialistic and reactionary aggression.

Today, once more we declare that our goodwill will stay unchanged for the political solution of relations between Iran and Pakistan. We are in favor of peace and mutual understanding with our neighbors — not through war and conflict, but through constructive political talks on all the relevant problems. Only this way is just and reasonable in accordance with the interests of the people.

In order to achieve peace and good-neighborliness, we will not submit to provocation but will express patience and goodwill and invite the opposite side to submit to reason and goodwill.

The day before yesterday the 17th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee was held. The basic guidelines for the socioeconomic growth of the DRA for the years 1986-1987 was approved at the plenum.

A BIA correspondent reports that Sarwar Mangal, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee presented the session with a report on the DRA socioeconomic development plan for 1986 and on the implementation of last year's plan.

Then Muhammad Kabir, finance minister, presented to the session the report on the 1986 state budget of the DRA.

Anwar Farzam, secretary of the Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council, presented a report on the activities of the Presidium and the permanent commissions of the Revolutionary Council during the second half of 1985.

The BIA reporter adds that the decree for the approval of the 1986 DRA socioeconomic development plan, the decree for the approval of the state budget for 1986 and its accomplishments in 1984 [as heard], and the decree on the confirmation of the accomplishments of the Presidium DRA Revolutionary Council during the second half of 1985 and also the activities of the permanent commission of the Revolutionary Council was unanimously approved by the members of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Karmal Leaves on 'Short, Unofficial' Visit to USSR

LD301500 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, 30 Mar (BAKHTAR) — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this morning left for Soviet Union on a short, unofficial visit.

Members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, and a number of party and state officials were present at Kabul International Airport to see him off.

Security Forces Successes, Weapon Seizures Detailed

LD301615 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Citing a DRA security force source, BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations by the country's security forces in the region of Bala Boluk district, Farah Province, a number of armed counterrevolutionaries belonging to the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami band were captured.

A recoilless Egyptian-made 82-mm gun, a mortar with three shells, two DShK's, a [word indistinct] rocket, and Egyptian-made machine-gun, and a foodstuffs and medicine depot were seized by the security forces.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations, the security forces, with the help of the noble peoples of villages of (Malagyan) and (Chat Ghodi), Musa'i subdistrict, Kabul Province, seized 2 DShK's, a rocket launcher, a medium mortar, and 20,000 assorted shells in the nests of the Gulbuddin band.

British Foreign Minister Howe Visits Delhi

Terrorism 'Likely' To Be Discussed

BK291316 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] India's grave concern over the use of British soil for directing anti-Indian terrorist activities is likely to be conveyed to the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, who is arriving in New Delhi tomorrow night on a 4-day official visit. The All India Radio correspondent recalls that this concern has repeatedly been expressed in Parliament by all sections. There is a feeling that British Government has not acted with adequate firmness and effectiveness in dealing with terrorism and terrorists like Jagjit Singh Chauhan and followers of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front.

Sir Geoffrey Howe will be leading an 18-member delegation. An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that the British minister will call on the president and the prime minister besides having formal talks with his host, the minister for external affairs, Mr B. R. Bhagat.

Arrives 30 March

BK310316 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The British foreign secretary, Sir Jeoffrey Howe, arrived in New Delhi last night on a 4-day official visit. He was received at the airport by the secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Venkateswaran. The British high commissioner, Sir Robert Wade-Gery, was also present. Sir Geoffrey is accompanied by an 18-member delegation.

Soon after arrival, in a statement Sir Geoffrey said he was looking forward for substantive talks on a wide range of international issues which are of concern to Britain and India. More cooperation between the two countries will be taken up during the discussions with Indian leaders. The British foreign secretary said he will also obtain fresh insight into India's aspirations and concerns. He said his visit is taking place against a background of long-standing, continuous, and varied contacts between the two countries and the people at innumerable levels.

Sir Geoffrey will call on President Giani Zail Singh and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, during his stay in the capital besides having talks with the external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat. He will also visit Agra and Bombay before leaving for Pakistan.

Formal Talks Begin

BK310917 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, and the visiting British foreign secretary, Sir Geofrey Howe, held formal talks in New Delhi this morning. Earlier, Sir Geoffrey, who arrived in capital last night with an 18-member delegation, called on Mr Bhagat. He also went to Raj Ghat and Shakti Sthal where he laid wreaths at the samadhis [mausoleums] of Mahatama Gandhi and Indira Gandhi. The british foreign secretary is calling on the president, Giani Zail Singh, later today.

Director of Punjab Police Replaced 28 March

BK281613 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The director general of Punjab police, Dr B. S. Dhariwal, has been replaced by Mr G. Robeiro, special secretary in the union ministry of home affairs. Mr Robeiro, a former police commissioner, is taking over tonight.

Further on Hindu-Sikh Unrest in Punjab

Gandhi Holds 'Urgent Consultations'

BK281623 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Excerpts] In Punjab, 9 persons were killed and 17 injured, 2 of them seriously, when some unidentified persons suspected to be terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Dressi Arya School ground and Damoria bridge area in Ludhiana early this morning.

In Kapurthala, one person was injured when police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob indulging in brickbatting and violence. Curfew in Kapurthala, which was in force during night hours only, has been extended during the day also. The district administration in many places has enforced restrictions on plying on 2-wheeler automobilies. Restrictions range from a total ban on plying to the pillion riding.

The Congress-I vice president Mr Arjun Singh, and the minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, have rushed to Punjab to study the situation and mobilize the support of all parties to help the Barnala government meet the increasing threat from terrorists. Immediately after getting the news of the incidents in Ludhiana, the prime minister had urgent consultations with some of his senior colleagues. Efforts are being made in the capital to contact the leaders of all national parties to discuss how all the parties could strengthen Mr Barnala's hands in dealing with the extremists. The national integration council has been convened to meet in New Delhi on the 7th of next month. It will discuss the matter.

Minister Sees 'No Need' for Army

BK290402 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] The center has extended its full support to the Punjab government in combating terrorism in the state. Addressing a news conference in Chandigarh last night, the minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, expressed the center's concern over the law-and-order situation in Punjab and said it will continue to give whatever support is required by the state government in dealing with the situation. He said terrorism has to be fought firmly at every level. The people of Punjab want peace and prosperity, and the terrorists had no support amongst

them. Replying to a question, Mr Nehru said there is no need at the moment for calling out the army in Punjab. He reiterated the center's commitment to the implementation of the Punjab accord. Mr Nehru said that the center was maintaining a constant vigil to check infiltration of terrorists from across the border. He also condemned yesterday's killings in Ludhiana.

The Congress-I vice president, Mr Arjun Singh, who also addressed the news conference, called upon all political parties to launch a joint campaign against terrorism and communalism in Punjab. He asked the chief minister to take the strongest possible action to tackle the law-and-order situation in the state. He said the Congress-I will stand by the people of Punjab and will perform the duty of a responsible opposition party in the state. Mr Nehru and Mr Arjun Singh rushed to Punjab yesterday to study the situation and mobilize the support of all parties to help the Barnala government meet the increasing threat from terrorists. Both the leaders have meetings with Mr Barnala and the state governor, Dr S.D. Sharma, after arriving in Chandigarh.

Political Parties Call Strike

BK290915 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] A bundh [strike] is being observed in Punjab and Chandigarh today in protest against yesterday's shooting incident in Ludhiana. The call for the bundh was given by the major political parties in the state. They are: the BJP [Bharatyia Janata Party], the Congress-I, the CPI, and the Janata Party. The Akali Dal president, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has also extended support to the bundh call.

The situation in all the curfew-bound towns in Punjab continues to be under control. The union minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, and the Congress-I vice president, Mr Arjun Singh, along with the Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, reached Ludhiana from Chandigarh this morning for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation. Leaders of some other political parties have also accompanied them.

A similar bundh is being observed in Haryana following a call given by the state unit of the BJP. In Himachal Pradesh, shopkeepers in Simla observed a bundh, condemned the killings, and urged the Barnala government to deal with the antinational elements firmly. A member of the Himachal Sikh Gurdwara [temple] Board, Mr Rawel Singh, has also condemned the killings.

Meanwhile, the authorities have taken all possible measures to check any untoward incident in the state. The BJP president, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, has expressed concern over the situation in Punjab. Addressing a meeting in Gwalior last night, he demanded the dismissal of the Barnala government for its failure to contain the terrorist activities in the state. He charged the center also for the deterioration of the situation in the state. The chief of the Jammu and Kashmir Awami Action Committee, Mir Waiz Maulvi Farooq, has condemned terrorist activities and brutal killings of innocent people in Punjab. In his statement in New Delhi today, he appealed to the people to help the Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, in defusing the situation in the state.

In Punjab, a terrorist was killed in an exchange of fire with a police party in village (Kerwal) near Tarn Taran in Amritsar district this morning. According to official spokesman in Chandigarh, the exchange of fire followed the raid by the police party at his house to apprehend him.

The Delhi police have arrested an alleged terrorist Harvinder Singh Khalsa. Police also said he was reportedly involved in the bomb blast cases of 1983 and was declared a proclaimed offender.

Gandhi Seeks Joint Party Efforts

BK291258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has called for joint efforts by all political parties to meet the threat posed by the terrorists in Punjab. Inaugurating a Congress trainees camp near Badli in Delhi today, he said no party should try to take political advantage of the current situation in the state. He appealed to the people of all communities to counter violence unitedly. Warning the people that a tense situation in a sensitive border state only weakens the country, Mr Gandhi said the entire nation should be alert to meet any challenge. He referred to yesterday's incidents of violence and said this had happened earlier in the state, but the people in general had shown commendable restraint and remained peaceful.

Mr Gandhi said certain powers do not like India being independent and emerging powerful in the Third World. These forces, he added, have been making relentless efforts to divide the people of the country. Mr Gandhi said India is determined to move forward in the world community with its independent foreign policy, secularism, and democratic principles, and without being pressurized by any neocolonial power.

Gandhi Briefed on Situation

BK300416 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, and the Congress-I vice president, Mr Arjun Singh, have apprised the prime minister of the latest law and order situation in Punjab. Both Mr Arjun Singh and Mr Arun Nehru, who were sent by the prime minister to Punjab on Friday, returned last evening after an on-the-spot assessment of the situation in the state. The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, who had also come to Delhi with them, met Mr. Rajiv Gandhi later.

Opposition Seeks 'Save Punjab Day'

BK301012 Hong Kong AFP in English 1004 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] New Delhi, March 30 (AFP) — Opposition parties here have called for a "save Punjab day" Monday and a general strike

Tuesday in a bid to pressure the federal government to act to end mounting Sikh violence in the northern state.

The nationalist Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has called for a "save Punjab day" to be observed across India Monday, to be followed by a one-day general strike in Delhi Tuesday.

Opposition sources said Monday's action would involve a massive march on the national parliament here.

The call, which came after a week of fresh killings in the strife-torn northern border state, was immediately backed by other opposition parties, including the Janata which ruled India from 1977-79 and the Congress (Sharad Pawar Group).

BJP Secretary Krishanlal Sharma said in a statement Saturday that his party wanted the moderate Sikh administration in Punjab to work with the federal government to develop a joint strategy to contain the militant violence.

Activists of the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh, a militant Hindu body closely associated with the BJP, were among 14 people reported killed in a suspected Sikh militant attack in Ludhiana on Friday.

Madan Lal Khurana, chief of the Delhi BJP chapter, said his party "could not remain a silent spectator to the unabated murders" in Punjab.

1 Killed in Police Fire

BK281248 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] One person was killed and two others injured in police firing in Nakodar [in Punjab] today. The police had to resort to firing when lathi [baton] charge and tear gas failed to disrupt a mob which tried to take out a procession in the curfew-bound town. Ten policemen were injured in the brickbatting by the unruly mob.

Police Fire on Mob

BK291304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Excerpt] In Punjab, indefinite curfew was clamped today in Hoshiarpur and Pathankot towns. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, this is being done as a precautionary measure in view of some tension growing up in these towns.

In Pathankot, the police had to use force, including firing, to disperse an unruly mob indulging in arson and stone throwing. Fifteen persons were injured in the incident. The other towns in which the curfew is imposed are Batala, Kullundur, Nakodar, Kapurthala, Muktsar, Anandpur Saheb, Ludhiana, and Hajipur. The situation in all these towns continues to be under control. As reported earlier, a bundh [strike] is being observed in Punjab and Chandigarh today in protest against shooting incidents at Ludhiana.

8 Die in 'Terrorist' Attack

BK300405 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, 8 persons were killed and a child injured when some jeep-borne terrorists struck in three village of Nakodar subdivision in Jullundur district last night. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the villages are (Madhya Kollah), (Madhya Kult), and (Gill). The terrorists, firing indiscriminately, drove through these villages. Senior civil and police officials have rushed to the spot on receipt of information along with well-equipped medical teams. The spokesman said the police last night conducted raids on suspected hideouts of terrorists at many places in the state. The new director-general of police, Mr G. Robeiro, rushed to Jullundur immediately on receipt of information late last night to personally supervise the anti-terrorist operations in the region.

The police all over the state have been alerted and the people are requested to report about the presence or movement of any suspicious-looking person or vehicle to the nearest police station or patrolling party. The state government has decided to cover the entire state under the sector scheme of intensive 24-hour patrolling by police and paramilitary forces. In this connection the state has requested the center for additional 45 companies of paramilitary forces.

Sikh 'Militants' Kill 20

BK300536 Hong Kong AFP in English 0522 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Amritsar, India, March 30 (AFP) — Sikh militants gunned down 20 people in the Punjab town of Jalandhar Saturday, press reports said here Sunday. Officials on Saturday put the death toll in Jalandhar at 12, but the Punjab newspaper, *PUNJAB KESRI* said Sunday that 20 people had been gunned down.

It was the second major strike by the militants in the state in as many days.

In a smilar incident on Friday, 14 people, including militant Hindu activists were shot dead in the major Punjab industrial centre of Ludhiana.

3 'Terrorists' Arrested

BK301245 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, three terrorists involved in yesterday's shootout in three villages of Nakodar subdivision of Jullundur district have been arrested. The arrest follows a joint combing operation by the police and paramilitary forces in the area. One jeep, two rifles, two sten guns, two revolvers, and large quantity of ammunition have been recovered from their possession. Five members of the group are reported to have escaped. Combing operations to apprehend them are continuing. During their preliminary interrogation, they have also accepted the responsibility for the shooting incident in Kapurthala some time ago when a number of persons were shot dead.

In Chandigarh, the Akali Dal legislative party is meeting tomorrow to take stock of the latest law and order situation in the state. The meeting has been summoned by the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala.

300 Arrested in Crackdown

BK301513 Hong Kong AFP in English 1502 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Amritsar, India, March 30 (AFP) — The police killed two Sikh militants and arrested about 300 persons, including five suspected of involvement in the killing of 12 people on Saturday, as a drive against Sikh militant violence gathered pace in Punjab on Sunday.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported that two Sikh militants had been killed in a shootout with a paramilitary central reserve police patrol at the village of Panchhatta in the Jullundur district of the strife-torn northern Indian state.

Official sources here said the Punjab police and federal paramilitary forces had raided several suspected hideouts of hardcore Sikh militants and had taken about 300 persons into custody since the crackdown began on Saturday.

The PTI quoted police sources in the state capital Chandigarh as having said police officers had arrested five persons in connection with the killing of at least 12 people in the Jullundur district on Saturday.

Official sources said most of the 300-odd people detained had been arrested in four sensitive districts: Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Ludhiana and Jullundur.

The sources did not identify those arrested, but said they were thought to be Sikhs suspected of being separatists or having links with separatists.

However, state officials said many hardcore militants had gone underground.

'Massive Drive' Against Terrorists

BK301625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Two suspected terrorists were killed in an encounter with a police patrolling party in Panchhatta village in Phagwara this morning. In another incident, one person was shot dead by some suspected terrorists in (Guman Khurd) village last night. Meanwhile, the curfew in Jullundur and Nakodar has been extended up to 1100 since Tuesday. [sentence as heard] There will be 5 hours relaxation in curfew in Jullundur and 4 hours in Nakodar from 0900 tomorrow. The 3-hour curfew relaxation at Batala today passed off peacefully. In Kapurthala, the curfew which was to have been relaxed for 5 hours from 0900 this morning was reimposed after 3½ hours as a precautionary measure.

Paramilitary forces and the state police are jointly launching a massive drive against the terrorists. This follows the state government's strategy to flush out terrorists from their hideouts. According to authoritative sources, the Punjab government is all set to adopt a tough attitude toward the terrorists with the full backing of the center. Forty-five companies of paramilitary forces were rushed to the state today.

At a meeting with the prime minister in New Delhi last night, the chief minister apprised him of the new strategy adopted by the state government to combat terrorism.

The recent killings of innocent people by terrorists in Punjab has evoked wide-spread condemnation from Sikh organizations throughout the country. At a congregation at Bangla Saheb Gurdwara in the capital today, eminent Sikhs said violence in the state is part of the designs of antinational elements. Those who addressed the congregation included the president of the Sikh forum, General Jagjit Singh Arora; leader of the Akali Dal parliamentary party, Mr Balwant Singh Ramoowalia; and former union minister, Mr I.K. Gujral. Later, a peace march was taken out.

The Punjab Congress-I has appealed to the people of Punjab to maintain peace and communal harmony in the state despite the grave provocations. The appeal was made in a resolution adopted at a meeting of district presidents and state office-bearers of the party in Chandigarh today. The meeting described the Barnala government as directionless and helpless and said it has no moral right to stay in power.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr L.K. Advani, has demanded a judicial inquiry into the killings in Punjab. Mr Advani, who was in Ludhiana for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation, told newsmen that the killings in Ludhiana and Jullundur districts during the past 2 days showed the failure of the Barnala government.

The Haryana Lok Dal president, Mr Devi Lal, has strongly condemned the shootouts in Ludhiana and Jullundur districts during the last 2 days. Mr Devi Lal told PRESS TRUST OF INDIA today that he has urged all secular political parties to extend their full support to Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, in crushing terrorism.

Antiterrorist Drive 'Intensified'

BK310354 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] In Punjab, the day and night patrolling by the police and paramilitary forces has been further intensified all over the state. The combing operation to apprehend five terrorists who escaped when the police raided their hideout in village Rawal, 40 kilometers from Jullundur, is continuing. Three terrorists were arrested and a large number of arms and ammunition were recovered from the hideout.

In Amritsar, some unidentified terrorists lobbed two crude bombs over a police station early this morning; no damage was however caused. The policeman on duty fired at a fleeing miscreant but nobody was reported injured.

The Gurdaspur district police chief has clarified that the person shot dead in a village, (Guman Khurd), on Saturday [29 March] night was not a caretaker of any religious place. He said the police have registered a case and vigorous investigation is continuing.

Meanwhile, the Akali legislature party in Punjab is meeting in Chandigarh this evening to discuss the latest law and order situation in the state. The meeting has been called by the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, who is also the president of the party.

Sikh organizations throughout the country have condemned the recent killings in Punjab. At a congregation at Bangla Saheb Gurdwara in the capital, eminent Sikhs said antinational elements are responsible for violence in the state. Sri Guardwara Singh Sabha in Bangalore, Bombay, and Ahmedabad condemned the killings and demanded immediate action to defuse the situation in the state. The Sikh Sangat of Andhra Pradesh has extended its support to the Punjab government to put down antisocial elements. The Sikh community in Tamil Nadu, condemning the killings, urged the state administration to take immediate steps to curb violence. In Calcutta, four Sikh organizations at a joint meeting called for a united stand against the actions of the terrorists. The Sri Dasmesh Naujawan Sabha, the National Sikh Youth Federation, and the Khalsa Biradri of Delhi in separate statements expressed sorrow at the incidents and appealed for immediate check on the deteriorating law and order situation. The Hindu-Sikh Ekta Manch has called upon the people to join hands with the state government to root out terrorists.

In Jammu, all educational institutions will remain closed today in view of the bundh [strike] call given by various religious, social and political organizations in protest against the recent killings in Punjab. The Haryana government has taken adequate security measures to maintain peace and normalcy in the state in view of the call for a bundh given by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] for today. The call has been given to protest against the recent shooting incidents in Punjab.

Police Arrest 2,000 Hindu Anti-Sikh Protesters

BK311033 Hong Kong AFP in English 1022 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] New Delhi, March 31 (AFP) — Police arrested some 2,000 Hindu protesters in New Delhi Monday after they attacked police with stones, bottles and iron rods in an attempt to storm a Sikh temple, police and eyewitnesses said.

Some 5,000 Hindus had gathered to protest the murder of more than 20 Hindus by suspected Sikh militants in several incidents in the northern state of Punjab over the weekend, police said.

The demonstrators hurled sticks, stones, iron rods and bottles at police and paramilitary forces and damaged at least eight buses after they were prevented from marching on a three-centuries old Sikh temple, the Seeshganhj Gurdwara, in the north of the city, eyewitnesses said.

At least four police were injured in the incident. Police used batons and mounted police to disperse the crowd, they added.

At least 1,000 police and paramilitiary armed with automatic rifles were stationed round the huge temple complex, and additional forces had cut off roads leading to the temple.

"There would be a massacre if the Hindus get a chance to go near the temple," area police chief Rajendra Mohan said.

Kedar Nath Sahani, the local leader of the militant Hindu opposition party, the Bharatiya Janata [BJP], which organised the demonstration, said that they had simply planned to march through the capital's wholesale market to the Indian Parliament, but the police used "brute force" to stop them.

Trouble started when the demonstrators refused to take an alternative route to the Indian Parliament and insisted on breaking through the police cordons towards the Sikh temple.

This led to a free for all, and BJP workers gathered to paralyse traffic on the busiest main roads linking the north of the city to the rest of the capital.

Carrying sticks and shouting anti-Sikh slogans, the protesters attacked buses, smashed windscreens, deflated tyres, damaged traffic islands and attacked a police assistance booth demanding "death to Sikh militants who were killing their Hindu brothers."

Police said they had arrested about 2,000 people.

The BJP and other opposition parties have called for a one-day strike in New Delhi on Tuesday to protest the Punjab violence.

Junejo Views Citizen's Rights, Independent Judiciary

BK281134 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has declared that the government would make every effort to establish the supremacy of law and build an equitable society based on the Islamic concept of social justice. Inaugurating a 3-day Pakistan jurists' conference in Karachi this morning, he said the government regarded the honor and liberty of every citizen as a sacred trust. With the revival of the Constitution, fundamental rights of the citizens have not only been restored but have also been made justiciable. The restoration of fundamental rights was a positive guarantee of ensuring the safety of life and liberty which was in conformity with the Islamic injunctions. The Constitution has specified the functions and powers of executive, legislature, and judiciary which were the three organs of the state. He was opposed to any encroachment of one's powers by the other. The government was committed to implement the provisions in the Constitution for independence of judiciary in letter and spirit. It was the government's earnest desire that the judiciary should completely be separated from the executive and this would be achieved progressively. The prime minister said the lawyers had played an important role in securing justice for the common man. He hoped they would continue to do so keeping in view the constitution and demand of justice.

A constitutional committee has been set up under the federal minister for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mr Iqbal Ahmad Khan, to propose what further amendments are needed in the Constitution. He announced amid loud cheers that he had decided to introduce a bill in the next session of the National Assembly for withdrawal of amendments in the legal practioners and bar council act which, he hoped, would satisfy all. Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo announced a contribution of a half a million rupees for establishment of a fund for providing free legal aid to the poor and needly litigants and another half a million rupees as grant-in-aid for Pakistan Bar Council.

Protests Lodged With Afghan Envoy on Shelling

30 Mar

BK301534 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] The Karmal administration's armed forces fired 14 artillery shells on Wednesday which fell about 10 miles south of Nawagai, injuring 5 civilians. Next day Karmal forces fired another 15 artillery shells which fell in Bajaur Agency, killing 1 Afghan refugee. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon, and a strong protest was lodged with him on these unprovoked attacks.

31 Mar

BK311539 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The Karmal administration's armed forces fired 34 artillery shells which fell near (Bahadurqala) in (Mamad) Agency on last Saturday. Later, during the day Karmal forces fired 30 more shells which fell near (Chakhe) village in Bajaur Agency killing a naval personnel. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today, and a protest was lodged with him on these incidents.

'Concern' Expressed Over Intensified Gulf War

BK310669 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Pakistan has expressed concern over the recent intensification of the war between Iran and Iraq and the damage due to this. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad yesterday that the tragic war, which has continued for 5 years, is destroying the national assets and youths of two great Islamic countries. (?Besides this), the dispute has also hurt the strength of the Islamic world at a time when it badly needs unity and solidarity to face common challenges. The spokesman said that continuous and repeated violation of international norms of human rights and responsibilities has further complicated the promotion of a negotiated settlement of the dispute. He said that Pakistan is seriously concerned at the conclusion of a UN expert team's report which confirmed the use of chemical weapons against Iranian forces. The spokesman described this serious violation of international law as regrettable, adding that Pakistan hopes that both parties will display patience and restraint and, understanding their international responsibilities, will join in the search for a just settlement to the dispute.

The spokesman said that Pakistan thinks that it is an Islamic duty to promote peace between the two brotherly countries on the basis of justice, and we will continue our effort both in and outside the Islamic Ummah Peace Committee for this objective.

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Sermon in Tehran

Oil Prices, UN Stand on Iraq

GF281538 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Arabic Friday sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Supreme Defense Council chairman, at Tehran University on 28 March — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace be upon the men and women of our Muslim nation in the Arab world and throughout the world. We first congratulate you on the anniversary of the birth of the imam of the pious 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, may peace be upon him. I ask the Almighty to inspire our Muslim nation with 'Ali ibn Abu Talib's lofty spirit — the spirit of belief, loyalty, courage, effort, gratitude, and the refusal to succumb to anyone other than Almighty God — and to grant us all success in following his example and the example of all the other shining stars in the sky of Islam.

In the past week some issues of the Muslim world became prominent among world affairs. The first of such issues was OPEC and the covert and overt war being waged by the rich industrial countries against the poor and oil-producing peoples. Naturally, the fall in oil prices was in the interest of the main oil-consuming countries, that is, the rich countries which persistently refuse to change their unjust economic relations with the poor and (?exploited) to serve the interests of deprived peoples. Those who are occupying the thrones of industry and wealth — their great dependence on the oil of the wronged and poor countries notwithstanding — pay no attention to the people who possess that oil. Instead, they view the oil of these people as though it was part of their possessions and one of their rights.

The triumph of the Islamic revolution of Iran has shaken the thrones of the tyrants and heralded the destruction of the unjust formulas that control the world economy. Consequently, oil prices suddenly tripled. In those circumstances we extended easy-term prices and other facilities to the poor oil-consuming countries. Indeed, in certain circumstances we gave oil free. However, our revolutionary policy toward the rich oil consumers was always that the rich oil consumers should pay for the dependence of their strength and wealth on oil.

The investors now are trying with all their power to strike a counter blow and to revert prices to the unjust situation that prevailed prior to the triumph of the Islamic revolution. It is regrettable that some OPEC members cooperated with that treacherous policy and stabbed their brothers in the back, using flimsy pretexts for such behavior. Their stand was indeed a support for the principal arrogant and covetous powers in our contemporary world. We did all that we could to confront the plot. Our efforts were not in the interest of the Muslim Iranian people alone, but were in the interest of all the oppressed oil-producing people, the majority of whom are Muslims.

We shall continue, God willing, our efforts and harness all our resources in this just struggle.

The other issue is the UN Security Council's condemnation of Iraq's use of chemical weapons. Although the Security Council's condemnation was sound, it was very inadequate. The Western states that are members of the Security Council prevented the adoption of a resolution by the Security Council and opposed the endorsement of any practical proposal that prevents the continuation of such war crimes. It is appropriate here to recall that the 'Aflaqi regime is continuing to use chemical weapons with the same zeal. The correctness of our nation's thinking in not relying on any source other than divine help and on our own resources has been clearly demonstrated. Evil and malicious elements such as Saddam and his 'Aflaqi and Al-Tikriti clique are deterred only by force and a strong will. Therefore, we are determined, with God's help, to continue to deal our crushing blows to the enemy — who is now on his death bed — until he exhales his last breath.

I urge you, O worshippers of God, to fear God, to put your affairs in order, and to reconcile your differences. Say the truth and work for God's reward; be an adversary of the unjust and a helper of the wronged. I ask God to forgive me and you. Peace be upon you. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Say: He is one God, the everlasting refuge, who has not begotten, and has not been begotten, and there is no one equal to Him. [Koranic verse]

U.S. 'Defeated' by Libya

LD281109 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 28 Mar 86

["President of U.S. Aggression, OPEC, War" — IRNA headline]

[Excerpt] Tehran, March 28, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic Friday described the recent U.S. aggression against Libya as "a wrong move stemming from an unsound decision" which, he said, was disgracefully defeated thanks to Libya's resistance.

He said in attempts to make up for their defeats and weak points in various corners of the world, U.S. administrators seem to have launched a show of power which, the president pointed out, has further exposed and disgraced them.

President Khamene'i who is also leader of Tehran's congregational Friday prayers made the remarks during his second sermon in presence of a large group of Muslim worshippers gathered at Tehran University campus and the nearby streets to hold this week's politico-religious prayers.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i stated that this aggressive U.S. move against Libya indicated the Reagan administration's wrong assessment which stemmed from its confusion and inexperience. By this move, he noted, the U.S. has further aroused the nations' hatred towards herself and displayed its political confusion before the world public opinion.

President Khamane'i added that the message of the Iranian nation for other nations was that there was only one response to these U.S. aggressions, that is people's resistance.

On the oil issue and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the leader of Friday prayers reiterated that the Islamic Republic will in no way give in to the price cut plot designed by global arrogance and its agents and that the oil price must be returned to $28 per barrel. He said this Iranian stand had been explicitly stated in the recent OPEC meet and that Libya and Algeria too had supported it. He also urged the OPEC member countries to coordinate their policies to this end.

On the Iraqi imposed war, the head of the Supreme Defence Council stated that the Baghdad regime was on the verge of collapse which fact, he said, was being gradually realised by the world.

He said the desperate Ba'th regime in Baghdad was now faced with rising social discontent, low morale of its troops, economic pressures resulting from its inability to pay back dues to foreign countries because of the ongoing war, and more important the crushing blows it was receiving from Iran's Islamic combatants in the war fronts.

President Khamene'i stressed that Iran's heavy blows against the tottering Baghdad regime must continue in the new year and that as Imam Khomeyni recently pointed out, the people and the Islamic combatants must more actively participate in the war fronts so that "we would put a victorious end to the war soon."

Libyan Envoy Condemns U.S. Attack, Stresses Support
GF281545 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] 'Abdallah Fadil, the Libyan charge d'affaires in Tehran, delivered a speech during the political-ideological Friday prayers in Tehran today. He explained the recent attacks of the U.S. Naval and Air Force on the Libyan coasts. He also denounced the plots of the international arrogance against the Libyan people and the Muslims of the Middle East. He stressed the firm decision of the Libyan people in adopting an overall confrontation of the U.S. plots. He said: The rebelling Libyan people will remain loyal to their revolutionary principles and will regard as their natural right self-defense and the defense of their revolution in the face of the U.S. attack.

The Libyan charge d'affaires also stressed the backing and support for the issues of the Islamic and revolutionary people in addition to the popular revolutionary movement all over the world which is confronting international arrogance. He also referred to the downing of three aggressive U.S. planes in the Libyan Gulf of Sidra. He said: Libya has the right to attack NATO headquarters and U.S. interests all over the world in the wake of the flagrant U.S. imperialist aggression on it. The Libyan charge d'affaires also stressed his country's support for the Islamic revolution. He lauded the courageous positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the confrontation of international arrogance and reaction. He stressed the brotherly unity between the Muslim Iranian and Libyan peoples in the combat against the United States and the Saddam regime.

Honduran 'Encroachment' Upon Nicaragua Condemned
LD281428 Tehran IRNA in English 1421 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 29, IRNA — In a communique released here Thursday Iran's Foreign Ministry condemned the Honduran Government for its encroachment upon Nicaragua as an instance of "U.S. adventurism against revolutionary and freedom-loving nations."

Iran's Foreign Ministry said the implications of such "aggressive and convulsive" insinuations being evident, international organizations and responsible world bodies as well as independent nations should condemn such acts and also expose "the ugly face of the aggressor United States."

Kuwaiti Paper Claims Khomeyni Seriously Ill
GF291345 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 28 Mar 86 p 19

[Text] Paris — Khomeyni's health has seriously deteriorated recently. His kidneys are not working and he is suffering from acute heart trouble. Foreign doctors have been called in to supervise his medical treatment. The two doctors who were treating him, Sadeqi and Roshdi Ma'sumi, were dismissed and have managed to escape from Iran.

IRGC Urges 'All' To Apply for Deployment to Fronts
LD281212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Following the recent speech by the commander in chief of the Armed Forces on sending more forces to the fronts, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] has issued the following statement:

In carrying out the emphatic and mandatory behests of the illustrious leader of the Islamic revolution and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Imam Khomeyni — as declared in previous statements of the corps — the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in accordance with its lawful tasks and more resolutely than ever by employing all its capabilities, deems it essential to declare its readiness to carry out that command. Therefore, it hereby calls on all combatant forces volunteering for the fronts to apply in person, at the earliest opportunity, to the centers and bases of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps all over the country in order to be deployed, after being organized within the provincial Karbala' convoys due to be sent to the fronts in response to the summons by the imam of the Islamic nation.

Also, all those who have not yet received the necessary military training are invited to assist the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps toward the speediest formation of the 20-million-strong army, in carrying out this important command by the imam and the momentous mission entrusted to them, by applying in person to the corps bases and the Basij resistance groups of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps throughout the country in order to receive military training.

The statement also reads: The telephone numbers 398257, 398251, and 314125 of the Corps Central Staff Command are

ready to cooperate and coordinate with, and answer queries from the Hezbollahi Islamic nation, state organs and institutions, and Islamic societies throughout the country with regard to setting up Karbala' convoys, Fajr brigades, and divisions in response to the recent behests by the imam for deployment to the battlefields.

Iraqi General Admits 'Heavy' Losses in Al-Faw Battles

LD301014 Tehran IRNA in English 1009 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 30, IRNA — Commander of the Iraqi Third Army confessed for the first time that the Iraqi Army has suffered heavy losses in the Val-Fajr-8 offensive launched by the Iranian forces in Feb. in Al-Faw peninsula.

General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid described the casualties inflicted on the Iraqi forces as "heavy" and said that a number of the best senior Iraqi officers have been killed in the operation, the Kuwaiti daily *AL-ANBA'* quoted him as saying.

Further in the report published in Sunday issue of the paper, the Iraqi general was quoted as saying that if the Iranian forces made more advances in the Al-Faw region, he will commit suicide.

"If the Iranian forces continue their aggression against the Iraqi territory, I will first kill my wife and my daughter and then myself," the paper quoted him as saying.

'Abd al-Rashid encouraged the Iraqi regime to deploy chemical weapons against the Islamic forces of Iran and added that if he was to make military decisions he would burn the Iranian forces with whatever available.

The general was quoted as saying that he would not hesitate using chemical weapons against Iran. He ridiculed th U.N. Security Council's statement on banning chemical weapons and said that he would not wait for the UN to tell him which weapons he would be allowed to use.

Controversial remarks of General 'Abd al-Rashid, who is acting as the speaker of the Iraqi regime, has created problems for the Saddam's regime. Following the liberation of the Iraqi port city of Al-Faw, he had said that he would take the city back in three days time.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Communique No 27

LD281142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Here is a Central News Unit report from Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the joint operational center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Communique No 27, issued today, announces:

The relentless battle of the antiblasphemy troops of the monotheistic army continues, assaulting the positions of the defeated Zionist enemy and strengthening and consolidating the conquered positions around Al-Faw. Irreparable casualties are being inflicted on the moribund enemy in the waters of Khawr 'Abdallah and the shores of this strategic region.

The communique declares: By the everlasting grace of God, the selfless men of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps naval forces, using special advanced military means, yesterday conducted the unprecedented movement of a large military naval convoy. Having been escorted to its destination on the shores of the northern Persian Gulf, the enitre convoy has berthed in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational waters.

Last night and this morning too, the heroes of the Islamic Guards Corps naval forces fired at and destroyed two military craft of the Iraqi Zionist regime in the waters of Khawr 'Abdallah, together with all their equipment and crew. Also, another three enemy naval craft in the area were heavily damaged, so much so that the parts of one of the destroyed craft could be seen in the area's waters.

An enemy helicopter gunship attempted to save the lives of the forces on this craft but was fired on by the coastal artillery of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps naval forces and destroyed.

Also, following the bombing of the Zionist forces' positions along the Al-Faw-Basra, Al-Faw-Al-Bihar, and Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axes during last night and today, irreparable losses and casualties were inflicted on the moribund Iraqi Army by sorties of the intrepid Air Force pilots of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces.

It is noteworthy that yesterday while moving the corps' large military naval convoy in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational theater, massive and heavy fire by the coastal artillery of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps naval forces and timely air defense action downed three enemy fighter aircraft in that region. The total number of aircraft of the aggressor Iraqi regime's army shot down since the beginning of the "Val-Fajr-8" operation has reached 73.

Communique No 2423

LD281839 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 28, IRNA — In its Communique Number 2423, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic said Friday that heavy clashes took place between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi soldiers in 'Panjwin' operational region Friday at which the attempt of the Iraqi troops to advance was crushed. It said also that Ba'thist troops sustained casualties and damages as a result of Iranian artillery fire on their position in the region.

In other northwestern battlefronts some Iraqi soldiers were killed as their defense positions were heavily pounded Iran's [as received] Muslim combatants, the joint staff said. An enemy's munitions depot as well as a truck were set ablaze, it added.

The communique said that Iraqi warplanes bombarded Rabat township a well as 'Jaldian' village at 13:20 and 17:00 hours local time (09:50 and 13:30 GMT) Thursday martyring some five civilians and injuring three others. Some heads of cattle belong-

ing to the villagers was also killed and some buildings destroyed, it added.

In border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam, at least 15 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded by Muslim combatants' artillery fire, the communique said. It added that more than ten bunkers and light and heavy weapons of the enemy were demolished and considerable damages inflicted on the enemy's oil and economic installations in "Naft Khaneh", "Bani-Malik" and "Darband-i Khan" region.

In Sumar exchange of artillery fire was more intense than in other areas in the western war fronts Thursday, the communique said.

Iran's Muslim combatants anti-aircraft units thwarted intruding Iraqi warplanes from penetrating the operational regions of Gilan-e Gharb and Eslamabad, the joint staff said.

The communique furthermore said that in southern battlefronts, the Muslim combatants of the Islamic Republic controlled all movement of the enemy especially in Umm Qasr region.

It added that in Al-Faw operation region Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and damages as their positions were heavily shelled.

An Iraqi patrol unit was prevented from operating across the 'Nahr Anbar' and the enemy's patrol units were forced to flee under intense fire of the Iranian combatants, the communique said.

The command said that Iran's gendarmerie forces set ablaze a munitions depot, some artillery emplacements and an observation post of the enemy forces in Abadan operational region, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi troops.

Iraqi Occupation of Heights Denied
LD281907 Tehran IRNA in English 1834 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 28, IRNA — A military spokesman here Friday flatly denied an Iraqi claim Friday of having occupied strategic heights north of Iraq.

The spokesman said despite an Iraqi claim reflected in its military Communique Number 2165 Friday no clashes had occured between the Iranian forces and the Iraqi troops in or near any strategic heights in Iraq.

The Iranian official noted that at 00.30 hours local time Friday (21.00 hours Thursday) [as received] one group of Iraqi troops had launched a half-hearted attack against Iran's Muslim forces midway between (Doyrah) and (Mishlan) across the Iranian city of Marivan but that its attack was immediately repelled.

The military spokesman said exchange of artillery fire continues in the area with the Iranian forces maintaining the upper hand.

Communique No 2424
LD291707 Tehran IRNA in English 1612 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 29, IRNA — At least 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and four observation posts, one vehicle and several bunkers of theirs were demolished in the western fronts Friday as their positions were hit by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants, says a military communique here Saturday.

Communique Number 2424 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that Islamic forces of Iran opened fire on positions, supply routes and military bases of Iraqi forces in northwestern fronts killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers and destroying a base and several bunkers of theirs.

The Iranian forces shelled industrial centers and oil installations of Iraqi township of Banmil and Naft Khaneh inflicting heavy losses on them, according to the command.

The Joint Staff communique says that Iranian artillery fire hit an Iraqi patrol unit as it was about to infiltrate their positions near Sumar at 04:00 hours GMT Friday inflicting casualties and damage on Iraqi patrolmen and forcing the remainder to flee.

In the southern fronts, the communique says, Iranian Muslim combatants fortified their positions and shelled Iraqi positions and 2C enemy tanks moving in the region, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them.

The artillery fire of Iran's gendarmerie forces hit Iraqi positions in Abadan Friday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and halting their engineering operations, says the military communique.

Navy Destroys Oil Platform
LD291653 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] According to a Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters report, the Islamic combatants continue to register more victories against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations. The selfless naval personnel of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, bent on inflicting further destructions on the Iraqi regime troops, pounded the Al-Ummayah oil platform at 1200 today, causing heavy losses and casualties. The destruction of Al-Ummayah oil platform resulted in the death of many Iraqi mercenaries.

Communique No 2425
LD301626 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 30, IRNA — Two Iranian civilians were martyred and 10 others wounded when invading Iraqi warplanes bombarded Kani-Sefid and Sardab villages in suburb of Baneh, Kordestan Province, twice Saturday, says a military communique here Sunday.

The Communique Number 2425 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that Islamic forces of Iran in a heavy

battle with Iraqi troops in Panjwin over the past few days inflicted substantial casualties and losses on them. Enemy reinforcement and transport operations were also paralyzed by Iranian artillery fire.

The command says that nearly 35 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and five bunkers and observation posts of theirs were destroyed in the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts as their positions were hit by Iranian artillery fire. Three light and heavy Iraqi vehicles were also set ablaze.

In Sardasht and Piranshahr, the communique says, Iraqi forces sustained considerable casualties and losses and parts of their positions were set ablaze by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants.

The Iranian artillery continued shelling industrial centers and oil installations of Iraqi townships of Banmil and Naft Khaneh inflicting heavy damage on them, says the communique.

In the southern fronts, says the communique, heavy artillery duels between the Islamic forces and Iraqi troops were reported in near [as received] Al-Faw where Iranian combatants checked supply and engineering operations of the Iraqi troops inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them.

Air Force Bombs Iraqi Positions

LD301709 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] According to reports received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the fast-flying pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a short-range (?support) sortie, heavily bombed enemy positions, equipment, and command posts today on the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axis, north of the salt lake, inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the Ba'thists. The smoke from the enemy's burning military equipment can be clearly seen.

43 Iraqi Soldiers Seek Asylum

LD301909 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ., March 30, IRNA — Forty three Iraqi soldiers and non-commissioned officers took refuge with Islamic forces of Iran in Al-Faw region Sunday, a senior Iranian military commander said Sunday.

The commander said that the Iraqi refugees were warmly received by Iranian Muslim combatants.

He also announced that Iranian forces are prepared to receive warmly all Iraqi soldiers who seek refuge with them.

2 Tankers Hit Near Qatar

LD302121 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] According to an IRNA report, today a Norwegian oil tanker and a Panamanian tanker were atttacked by unknown helicopters in Persian Gulf waters east of Qatar. In the course of these attacks, the unloading chamber of the Norwegian tanker and engine room of the Panamanian tanker were hit, but their crew were not hurt.

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1 APRIL 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian troops killed over 300 Iraqi soldiers during a 30-31 March infiltration operation in the north, Iran claimed in a war report cited by Tehran radio. Other reports carried by the radio stated that Iranian warplanes inflicted heavy losses in raids on Iraqi positions in the Al-Faw peninsula 31 March and 1 April.

Lebanon

The fighting between Palestinian gunmen and the Amal Movement stopped during the evening of 31 March as a result of efforts by the Camps Security Coordination Committee to secure a cease-fire, Beirut radio reported. In another development, French Embassy sources announced that France has decided to withdraw its remaining observers from Lebanon, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio noted.

Libya

The PDRY foreign minister congratulated Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on Libya's "great victory" in the face of U.S. "aggression," Aden radio stated in a report on their 31 March meeting in Tripoli.

Sudan

A military source cited by the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* announced that two Ethiopian jets recently violated Sudanese airspace and overflew the Upper Nile district capital of Malakal, SUNA reported.

Further Sudanese criticism of the United States was expressed in a SUNA political commentary, which accused Washington of seeking to undermine Sudanese unity by exploiting the southern problem.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak has ordered that a student wounded in a clash with policemen in Asyut be taken by special plane to the military hospital in Cairo, MENA reported. The student was shot when he and three other persons assaulted two detectives who were trying to prevent them putting up posters advertising a seminar in a local mosque, the agency disclosed.

Israel

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin criticized the U.S. State Department in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio, asserting that its "verbal maneuvering" will not accelerate the process of getting Jordan and moderate Palestinians to negotiate with Israel. The radio said Rabin believes that rather than talking, the Americans should do something about the quality of life in the occupied territories. He also viewed the State Department's advice that U.S. politicians avoid visiting the Middle East as "giving in to terrorism."

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Keshtmand Outlines Socioeconomic Development Plans
LD010649 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 31, BAKHTAR — The Gross National Production, GNP, of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, will grow by 25 percent in the first post-revolution socio-economic development plan of the country lasting from 1986 to 1991, said Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, addressing the 17th Plenum of the Central Committee of the PDPA.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA said that the implementation of the general policy of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan for the removal of century-long backwardness, acceleration of the growth of national economy, the consolidation of social pillar of people's power, the accomplishment of the undelayable tasks of social transformations aimed at elevating the material and cultural standard of living of the people constitute the main aspect of the socio-economic development plan for the years 1986-1991.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand added that the perspective growth and the democratic transformations are realising the long-cherished aspirations of the working people and their vital interest. This lays the foundation for the unity of all stratas, tribes and nationalities in Afghanistan and draw the progressive and patriotic forces around the PDPA for achieving victory over the forces of reaction and counter-revolutionaries.

The undeclared war unleashed by reactionary imperialism against the DRA which is still continuing has inflicted huge damages on the country's national economy and has produced numerous problems for the people of Afghanistan. In the years of undeclared war, chairman of the Council of Ministers continued to say, tens of economic institutions, over 2,000 schools, over half of [words indistinct] centres, hundreds of mosques, 14 thousand km of telephone lines and 50 percent of power transmission lines were destroyed by the counter-revolutionaries.

The damages inflicted due to the destructive actions of the counter-revolution being sent to the DRA by U.S. imperialism amounted to forty billion afghanis, said Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand.

The imperialist countries and in the first place [words indistinct] have overtly and covertly allocated over 1.5 billion dollars for the counter-revolutionary bands for subversive activities against the DRA.

Despite the hard conditions, the measures taken by the party and the state of the DRA in the recent years provided the grounds for the socio-economic growth of the country as a result of which the production level even surpassed the amount of the pre-revolution year.

The Afghan-Soviet cooperation projects have a determining [word indistinct] for the consolidation and economic growth of the country, the chairman of the Council of Ministers said. These projects, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand continued to say, produce over 75 percent of the industrial products of the state sector and over 60 percent of the electric energy. Over 90 thousand experts and skilled workers have been trained [words indistinct] Afghan-Soviet cooperation projects either in the Soviet Union or inside the country.

Mutually beneficial and traditional trade has been existing between the two countries. Presently, the exchange of goods with the Soviet Union forms 65 percent of foreign trade circulation in the DRA.

Retail trade is mainly carried out by the private sector. The state, mixed sectors and cooperatives are conducting about 22 percent of the trade circulations which have played an important role for the price stabilisation throughout the country.

Over 9000 experts with higher education, about 10 thousand with intermediate education and almost 4 thousand skilled workers have been trained in the past four years.

Culture and mass communication have further developed.

The number of state libraries increased by 63 percent. Radio programmes annually elevated by 1.3 times and television publications by 3.4 times.

With the economic and technical assistance of the Soviet Union over 130 major projects have been envisaged in the next five years, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand pointed out.

Keshtmand Congratulates Bulgaria's Atanasov
LD010628 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, March 31, BAKHTAR — Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the PDPA and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, sent a congratulatory message to Georgi Atanasov on the occasion of his election as a chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to Sofia.

The message expressed confidence that good relations and mutual cooperation will be further expanded in socio-economic spheres between the two countries.

Further on British Foreign Secretary's Visit

Spokesman on Talks With Bhagat

BK311459 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1433 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Briefing newsmen on 31 March, the official spokesman said that External Affairs Minister B.R. Bhagat today held discussions with British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Sir Geoffrey Howe on bilateral and international affairs of mutual interest. The talks lasted 2 hours. The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and were marked by a candid exchange of views. The EAM [External Affairs Minister] was assisted by Foreign Secretary Venkateswaran; Additional Secretary Prem Shunker, and Joint Secretaries Daulat Singh, Kuldip Sahdev, and S.K. Lambah.

The substantial portions of talks centered on India's concern regarding terrorist activities directed against India from British soil. Bhagat reiterated the serious concern voiced both by the government and Parliament in India with regard to acts of terrorism and terrorist organisations in the UK directed against India. It was pointed out that the existing laws in the UK can be used not only to debar entry of extremists but also to deport them from the UK. Attention of the British foreign secretary was brought to the fact that a large number of Sri Lankan refugees had been denied entry to and deported from Britain under its existing laws while persons known to be extremists advocating violence in India had not only been admitted into the UK but also given facilities to stay on there. The Indian side drew attention of the British delegation to several instances in this regard.

Bhagat urged that apart from the provision of the existing laws India expected the British Government to use its executive power and political will in dealing with extremists there as exemplified by its actions in dealing with the IRA [Irish Republican Army] terrorists. Sir Geoffrey expressed understanding of the concern expressed by the EAM and indicated that these issues would be looked into further on his return.

The British foreign secretary informed that [as heard] a request for asylum by Jaswant Singh Tuckkedar had been rejected by the British Government. While expressing his appreciation for this action Bhagat expressed his hope that Thekkedar would be deported to India under the existing laws of the UK.

Discussions were also held on a draft of the extradition treaty proposed by India. The British side also came up with some proposals. It was decided that experts could soon meet to discuss terms of the treaty.

The question of bilateral aid was mentioned by Sir Geoffrey who indicated that additional aid would be made available to India.

The EAM referred to developments in the region and India's efforts to improve relations with its neighbours, both bilaterally and in the framework of SARC [South Asia Regional Council]. Cooperation in the fields of culture and education was also discussed. Both sides expressed their interest in developing these further.

Later, answering queries from newsmen, the official spokesman also mentioned that India reiterated its opposition to a talk in some quarters, even before the present visit, of a Commonwealth initiative on Sri Lanka.

UK Mercenaries in Sri Lanka Discussed

BK311635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Excerpts] India has asked Britain to use its executive power and political will in dealing with extremists operating from British soil against this country. The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, today told the visiting British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, that the existing British laws can be used not only to ban the entry of extremists to Britain but also to deport them.

Briefing newsmen, an official spokesman said that Indian and British experts will meet shortly to examine the draft extradition treaty between the two countries.

In a review of the situation in the region, the Indian side reiterated its opposition to a Commonwealth initiative on the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka. It believes that the efforts being made to resolve the issue with India's good offices are satisfactory. India also expressed concern at the presence of private British mercenaries in Sri Lanka to assist the government in dealing with Tamil militants. Sir Geoffrey said the British Government does not have any control over them.

The question of Paksitan's reentry into Commonwealth also came up. The Indian side said there is no change in our position that the issue should be considered only on the basis of unanimity.

Mr Bhagat was assisted by Mr Venkateswaran who took over as the new foreign secretary this afternoon and other senior officials.

Howe Notes Antiterrorist Stance

BK010318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The visiting British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, has reiterated that any attempt to use his country as a base to destabilize others would be prevented. Delivering a lecture on the international outlook, the British view, in New Delhi, Sir Geoffrey said international terrorism has been a major concern to both India and his country. Referring to the arms race he said the concept of (?Eastern) security has been recognized by both the East and the West.

Meets Gandhi

BK011637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The visiting British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, today reafirmed that his country is no safe haven for those who act to destabilize others by violence or intimidation. He was

addressing a news conference in New Delhi after a meeting with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Replying to a number of questions on anti-Indian terrorist activities directed from Britain, he said his country shares India's determination to stamp out terrorism. There is no ambiguity or qualification for this determination. British political will and the full resources of British law will continue to be devoted to stamping out terrorism. He said no asylum has been granted to any Indian citizen since 1980. We are also always ready to consider applications for extradition.

Sir Geoffrey added that he had renewed Britain's offer to apply to India the Suppression of Terrorism Act. This would have a speedy, practical and psychological effect. India would be the first country outside Europe to benefit from this act. We should make it impossible for terrorists to argue against extradition by claiming that serious crimes of violence were politically motivated.

MP's Ask Reagan To Accept Soviet Proposals

BK281409 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Over 100 members of the Indian Parliament belonging to different political parties have appealed to the U.S. President, Mr Ronald Reagan, to reciprocate the Soviet Union's moratorium on nuclear weapon tests.

In a cabled message today they urged Mr Reagan to accept the Soviet offer before it expired by the end of this month. The signatories have said the moratorium on nuclear weapon tests, proposed by six nations including India, will pave the way for a comprehensive test ban treaty.

They also appealed to Mr Reagan to stop any program for militarization of outer space in order to take forward the spirit of the Geneva summit to a disarmament agreement.

Swiss Foreign Minister Arrives in Bombay 31 Mar

BK310431 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The foreign minister of Switzerland, Pierre Aubert, arrived in Bombay this morning on a 7-day official visit to the country. After an overnight stay, he will leave for New Delhi tomorrow morning. Mr Aubert is accompanied by his wife.

Spokesman Denies Special Envoy To Visit Colombo

BK311509 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1441 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] In response to queries from the press regarding news reports in the Sri Lankan press that Romesh Bhandari would be visiting Colombo on April 27, the official spokesman said that these news reports are speculative and without any basis.

Additional Reportage on Unrest in Punjab

Government, Opposition Meet

BK311259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] A general review of the Punjab situation was held in New Delhi today by the government with the opposition leaders. Ways and means to maintain law and order and communal harmony in the state were discussed. The parties represented at the meeting included CPI-M, CPI, Bhartiya Janata Party, Janata, Akali Dal, Telugu Desam, All India Anna-Dravida Munnetra Kazagham, and Assam Gana Parishad. From the government's side besides the prime minister, the home minister, the minister of state for internal security, and others attended.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting which lasted for more than an hour, Mr Arun Nehru said that the prime minister has given categorical instruction that maintaining law and order and communal harmony in Punjab is to be given priority and the situation should be dealt with firmly. He said the center would try to help the state government to the maximum to deal with the situation. All possible help has been given to the Barnala government in terms of paramilitary forces and equipment. Mr Nehru described the situation in Punjab as a difficult one and said it was agreed that no political party should do anything or give a statement which would weaken the position of Mr Barnala. It should be ensured that the morale of the police is maintained.

It was agreed that the local units of the political parties should visit the people in the state as a measure of confidence building. The opposition leaders agreed that some kind of common program should be drawn up to maintain peace and nothing should be done which would vitiate the atmosphere. Mr Nehru said Mr Barnala has told the police, the administration, and the partymen that the extremists should be dealt with firmly. It was also agreed at the meeting that Parliament should discuss situation in Punjab at a suitable early time. He said the government has no hesitation on ths score.

The opposition parties leaders welcomed the recent developments in which some extremists were either apprehended or killed.

Punjab Assembly Adopts Resolution

BK311629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The Punjab Legislative Assembly today unanimously adopted a resolution expressing concern over the activities of the antisocial, antinational, and foreign-inspired forces trying to destabilize Punjab through violence. The all-party resolution calls upon the people of the state to unite against these forces and defeat their designs. The people should work to uphold the unity and integrity of the country and to maintain harmony in the state, the resolution said.

Earlier, the Congress-I members staged a walkout when the house was discussing an official bill. The leader of the opposition, Mrs Gurbinder Kaur Barr, expressed the apprehension that the government is trying to push through the bill a day in advance of

the schedule. Even the statement of the speaker that the chief minister had agreed to discuss law and order in the state in camera later today failed to pacify the agitated Congress-I members. They boycotted the remaining proceedings of the house.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has sought the cooperation of all Punjabis in creating an atmosphere of peace, harmony, and goodwill in the state as well as in effectively curbing the violent activites. Replying to over an hour long discussion on the law and order situation in the state legislative assembly this afternoon, he described terrorism as a cancer which has to be rooted out at all costs. He said those indulging in such activities have no religion except cruelty.

He accused a neighboring country of harboring and training some misguided youths who are indulging in terrorist activities in Punjab. Mr Barnala said that the delay in the implementation of the Punjab accord has also to some extent contributed to the present situation in the state.

Later, the house was adjourned sine die.

Gandhi on Antiterrorist Action

BK310915 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has expressed the hope that the Punjab government will continue to act against the terrorists with a firm hand to bring about a change in the situation soon Mr Rajiv Gandhi was talking to newsmen after investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan [President's House] today. Asked about the training of terrorists in Pakistan he said the issue has already been taken up with the Pakistan Government on a number of occasions.

The Karnataka chief minister, Mr Ramkrishna Hegde, has said that he suspects a conspiracy involving foreign hand behind the violence in Punjab. He told newsmen in New Delhi today that those indulging in violence cannot be termed as misguided people because there is a method behind all the violent incidents. The issue should not be treated merely as a law and order problem.

Ban on Foreigners Extended

BK010637 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The whole of Punjab will continue to remain a restricted area for foreign passport holders till 2 July. The earlier notification, issued for a period of 3 months, is expiring tomorrow.

According to a notification issued by the Home Ministry in New Delhi, no foreign passport holder can enter Punjab for any purpose without obtaining a special permission from the Government of India, Indian missions abroad, or the home secretary to the Punjab government.

New Punjab Governor Named

BK011605 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 Apri 86

[Text] The foremr chief minister of West Bengal, Mr Siddharta Shankar Ray, has been appointed governor of Punjab. A Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House] communique issued this evening says the present governor of Punjab, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, is to be the new Maharashtra governor. Dr Sharma goes in place of Mr Kona Prabhakar Rao, whose resignation has been accepted. According to another communique, retired Vice Admiral Rustam Khusro Shahpur G. Gandhi is to be the governor of Himachal Pradesh. Vice Adm Gandhi fills the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr Hokishe Sema.

AIR [Al India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent understands that the new governor of Punjab will be sworn in tomorrow afternoon.

2 'Terrorists' Killed in Amritsar

BK010639 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab, two suspected terrorists were killed in an encounter with the police in the (Pakti) area of Amritsar district. According to an official spokesman, the terrorists — on a scooter — had earlier deprived the occupants of a car of their valuables at gunpoint. A mobile police party, on receipt of the information, rushed to the spot and in the exchange fire that followed the two culprits were killed.

Delhi Strike Protests Killings

BK011617 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Most shops, wholesale trading centers and industrial establishments remained closed in Delhi today in response to a bundh [strike] call by the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] to protest against the recent killings of innocent people in Punjab. Several other parties and organizations including the Akali Dal-Longowal have supported the bundh call.

Schools, banks and government offices were open. According to a DTC [Delhi Transport Corporation] spokesman, tires of seven vehicles were deflated and windows of two buses were broken by stoning in west Delhi. The police which had made elaborate arrangements detained about 150 persons for causing obstruction in the maintenance of law and order.

The organizers of the bundh had exempted essential services like public transport, electricity, water supply and hospitals.

The president of the Delhi unit of the BJP, Mr Madan Lal Khurana, claimed this evening that the bunhd was total. He said it showed the anguish of the people over the killings in Punjab. Mr Khurana claimed that more than 200 workers of his party were arrested for violating prohibitory orders.

PRC Reportedly Involved in Pakistan's Nuclear Program

BK311355 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The Defense Ministry's annual report for 1985-86 has said that Pakistan's determined quest for making a nuclear bomb and China's modernization program with military overtones have obvious bearing on India's security. The report says that China is widely believed to be involved in Pakistan's nuclear program. The continued flow of arms into Pakistan from the United States is another matte" of serious concern to India. The ministry underlined the need for taking appropriate countermeasures in view of the fact that external forces could interact with internal forces of dissent in the political and socioeconomic spheres adding to our security problems.

The report says there has been an increase in the number of contacts with China and bilateral relateions betweekn India and China have expanded in areas of trade and technical and cultural exchanges.

Zia Reiterates Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy

BK311649 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The direrton general emeritus of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], Dr Sigvard Eklund, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening and exchanged views with him on Pakistan's peaceful atomic program. The president reiterated Pakistan's intention to acquire atomic energy for peaceful purposes. He expressed the hope that the states with nuclear technology will understand Pakistan's immediate need for atomic energy and cooperate in this regard. The president agreed with Dr Eklund that the Agricultural and (?Biological) Atomic Institute in Peshawar has played a prominent role in achieving a better harvest this year in Pakistan. He also appreciated the progress in the medical field, with thousands of patients benefitting from new treatment methods. The IAEA director general emeritus said Pakistan (?badly) needs atomic energy for its development and is fully justified in its efforts to acquire such modern technology. Dr Eklund said he recognizes that Pakistan is reaping many benefits from its investment in atomic energy, such as in the fields of agriculture and medicine.

Speaking at a news conference before his departure, he said IAEA will help in the development of atomic energy in Pakistan especially for generating electricity.

Soviet Ambassador Meets Ziaul Haq 31 Mar

BK311540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 31 Mr 86

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest.

Mujahidin Operations Against USSR-Karmal Forces

Attack Position in Herat

BK290624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that Afghan mujahidin attacked a position held by Soviet-Karmal forces near Herat recently. In this operation, a large number of Soviet-Karmal forces were killed or wounded. According to the reports, in the course of this operation, besides capturing 13 members of the ruling party, mujahidin seized a large quantity of arms.

Attack Military Convoy in Farah

BK291032 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have ambushed a military convoy in the western Province of Farah. A number of Soviet-Karmal troops were killed and a large quantity of ammunition and several vehicles were destroyed during the operation.

Attack Qandahar Airport

BK010611 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] According to a report from Afghanistan, mujahidin recently attacked the Qandahar airport with rockets and damaged four MIG jets and two helicopters. They also inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet-Karmal troops. In retaliation, Soviet aircraft bombed an area near Qandahar for 2 hours, during which three civilians were killed and five others injured.

SRI LANKA

Security Minister on Terrorists Offensive Plans

BK301232 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Terrorists are reported to be planning a major offensive in the north. The minister of national security says that the intelligence reports have identified the Armed Forces establishments at Velvettiturai, Thondamanna, Point Pedro, or Karainagar as their possible targets. A statement by the minister says that the security forces in the north will not tolerate the provocative actions, suffering casualties in silence. Terrorists had been warned that the security forces will not only return the fire if attacked but also pursue the terrorists in full strength. Civilians have been advised to move out of the areas where terrorists operate as they might get caught in the crossfire.

The minister's statement refers to terrorist attacks on the Point Pedro and Thondamannar camps in the past week during which one soldier was killed and two others wounded. The terrorists used mortars and automatic weapons. These attacks were seen by the ministry as provocative action by terrorists against the security forces who had been confined to their camps following the suspension of offensive operations by the government on the 15th of March.

The government also announced at that time that the halt to aerial attacks on terrorist hideout (?was) a gesture of goodwill to improve the situation in the north and encourage the terrorists to negotiate. The statement adds that the aim of the terrorist was to destroy human life and cause damage to property while the terrorists were [words indistinct] in a luxury life in South India.

No Soviet, Indian Support of Terrorists

USSR Envoy Denies Support

BK301122 Colombo SUN in English 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] The Soviet Union is not supporting the Tamil terrorist groups either directly or indirectly, its Ambassador in Sri Lanka, K.N. Kulmatov, declared yesterday.

Re-iterating his government's position at a news conference Mr. Kulmatov said the Soviet Union only provided arms to its allies and friendly governments. It could not take responsibility for some of these weapons ending up in the hands of unauthorised groups, he said.

The Soviet envoy's reaction came when reporters asked how terrorist groups were possessing caches of Soviet-built weapons.

At present, all major terrorist groups are said to be using the Soviet built AK-47 assault rifle as their standard weapon.

During operations in the past months, security forces have captured a large number of these rifles.

Minister Confident of No Indian Aid

BK291125 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali had expressed confidence that India will in no way give assistance to set up a separatist Eelam government in Sri Lanka since such a move could be an ominous sign for the unity of a vast country like India itself.

The minister said that those involved in the local separatist movement should understand how the Tamils in south India and other races in different parts of our vast neighbor are living in harmony in a united India. The minister was speaking at a religious ceremony yesterday at the (Boragoda Sri Sukhada Rama) vihara [temple] at (Nivitigala).

Mr Athulathmudali said that no efforts will be successful in setting up an Eelam government within Sri Lanka and that the Sinhala people will not lose courage in the face of landmine explosion. They will not retreat either when they encounter terrorism.

The minister noted that the Tamils are safer among the Sihalese than in Jaffna.

Mr Athulathmudali explained that India and some other countries failed to bring out a resolution at a UN Human Rights Commission meeting against Sri Lanka because of the effectiveness of our foreign policy. Whatever was said and done, the minister observed that the Tamil solution to the ethnic problem was a political one and the terrorists should come forward even at this stage for a negotiated settlement. At the same time, he added, that the Sinhalese should also be united in encountering this problem.

Further Reportage on Separatist Violence

Five Soldiers Killed

BK280724 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Colombo, March 28 (AFP) — Militant Tamil separatists killed five soldiers and wounded three in a landmine attack Friday in the Trincomalee district in northeastern Sri Lanka, official sources said.

The landmine was planted in Kinniya village near the port of Trincomalee and blew up the troops' vehicle, a National Security Ministry spokesman said.

Two soldiers were wounded Thursday when Tamil militants opened fire at an army camp at Point Pedro on the northern tip of the Jaffna peninsula, the National Security Ministry said. There were no other casualties.

Later Thursday, Tamil militants abducted six Sinhalese farmers from a farm in the northern province as they were returning home by tractor, security sources said.

A seventh farmer managed to escape the attackers and inform the people at the farm, the sources said.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali had visited the same farm earlier this week and urged the settlers to be vigilant against separatist attacks, the sources said.

A section of Sri Lanka's Tamil minority are waging a frequently violent campaign for greater autonomy in the north and east, complaining of discrimination by the Sinhala majority.

125 'Marxist Terrorists' Captured

BK301157 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] One hundred and twenty-five Marxist terrorists were captured by the security forces at Karaitivu in Batticaloa last Friday. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that the forces also seized guns at (?farm) owned by the terrorists at Karaitivu. Three Russian-made grenades and heavy rifles used for training purposes, three wire ropes, [word indistinct] tapes, a pedal cycle, terrorist literature, two bags of paddy, and a large quantity of cooking utensils were also recovered during the search operation.

Navy Patrol Kills 11 Tamils

BK311058 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] A naval patrol yesterday intercepted a boat in the Palk Strait, killing 11 terrorists and destroying an arms cache they were bringing into the Jaffna peninsula. The incident occurred in the waters of Madagal, the scene of another incident there 24 hours before. At dawn on Saturday [29 March] a navy patrolcraft had spotted a boat carrying six persons heading toward Tamil Nadu. When they closed in on them they discovered they were armed terrorists. The patrol opened fire, destroying the boat and its occupants. Yesterday's incident had taken place shortly before noon, when the terrorist boat, loaded with a cache of arms, rifles, ammunition, grenades, and RPG, was heading toward the shore.

Tamil Terrorist Leader Killed

BK311119 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The security forces have found that 31 of the 175 terrorist suspects who were taken into custody at Karaitivu on Friday last week have links with the terrorist groups — EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front], TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization], PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam] and the Tamil Eelam Army. According to LANKA PUWATH, the others were taken into custody and will be released shortly.

An important member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] known as Raymond has been killed by the security forces when they raided a terrorist hideout in Kilinochchi yesterday. Ten others belonging to LTTE, TELO, PLOTE and EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students] were captured. Reports from LANKA PUWATH say that the terrorists had opened fire when the security forces approached the terrorist base compelling the forces to return fire.

Velayati Condemns U.S. Role in Nicaragua

LD311904 Tehran IRNA in English 1717 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 31, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati sent a message to his Nicaraguan counterpart Miguel d'Escoto condemning "aggressive provocations" of the United States against that Latin American country.

Velayati said in his message that U.S. imperialism strives to make the revolution of the Nicaraguan nation face defeat through exploiting all possible means.

"The U.S. helps counterrevolutionaries, dispatches military advisors and provokes that country's neighbours threatening military interference", the message said.

Cabinet Reviews Reconstruction Jihad, Foreign Policy

LD301105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] The Cabinet met today and, having reviewed the latest internal and external developments, discussed Islamic Republic's foreign policy concerning the neighboring countries. After emphasizing the need for good-neighborly relations with the neighboring countries it was decided to continue the discussion in later meetings.

The cabinet also earmarked 300,000 million rials towards the operations of the Reconstruction Jihad.

Muslim Brotherhood 'Strongly Condemns' Iraqi CW Use

LD301400 Tehran IRNA in English 1245 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 30, IRNA — The International Organization of Muslim Brotherhood has strongly condemned Iraq's use of chemical weapons, according to the public relations office of the Foreign Ministry here Sunday.

A statement published by the International Organization of Muslim Brotherhood called on all world Muslims to strongly denounce the deployment of chemical weapons which is "banned by all religions and international regulations".

"It is painful for us to see a non-Muslim person as Saddam Husayn of Iraq forcing Muslims to participate in an unwanted war and to aim their arms at their Muslim brothers," the statement said.

"The flaming fire of hell would be the place for such people who either kill their Muslim brothers or are killed themselves" it added.

SAIRI Spokesman Condemns Arab League Stance

LD312235 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI], condemned the Arab League's recent stance on the Iraqi imposed war upon Iran and referred to it as the stance of inveterate enemies of the Muslim Arabic nation. In an interview with the SAIRI news unit, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi announced that by ignoring the trampled rights of the oppressed Arab nations, particularly the Muslim nation of Iraq, this league supports the hirelings and unpopular regimes. In view of the overall position and policies of this league, we did not expect to see such a resolution issued.

The SAIRI spokesman thanked all those Arab countries which rejected this resolution or abstained on the vote. He declared that any step taken by world countries in favor of Saddam's disintegrating regime would be interpreted as hostility against the nation and Islamic revolution of Iraq.

Iraqi 'Revolutionaries' Kill Karbala' Official

LD302130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] In the course of some operations Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries killed the deputy head of Karbala' Province's security organization. According to news sources of the Iraqi mujahidin, Major Ibrahim Muhammad Shukr the deputy head of the security organization of Karbala' Province, was annihilated after a series of reconnaissance operations. This individual played a prominent role in preventing mourning ceremonies during last year's Muharram in the city of Karbala', and by torturing the struggling Muslims he sought to strengthen the shaky foundations of Saddam's disintegrating regime.

IRGC To Set Up Regional Staff Headquarter

LD291124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the chief of the Central Staff Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, spoke at a news conference. He declared: In order to meet the needs of the fronts in various fields staff headquarters will soon be set up in every provincial center, comprising Friday imams, the imam's representative to every province, the governors general, and the commanders of the provincial districts. In Tehran a staff headquarters, with the participation of the prime minister and the corps commanders, will undertake the task of supervising the provincial war staff headquarters and their tasks. In this news conference he declared: Following the recent speech by his holiness the imam the number of volunteer forces for the fronts is so numerous that the barracks of the corps are incapable of dealing with all the applicants, so we are extending a hand toward the people and Friday imams for succor so that they may help us.

He also said: The organs and institutions of the Islamic revolution, such as the Islamic Revolution Committees, which are willing to dispatch their forces in a structured manner the fronts, can either contact the corps staff command or telephone numbers 398151, 398257, 314125.

The chief of the central staff command of the Islamic Revolution Guards corps said: As to those who are incapable of bearing arms

but are volunteering for the various services sections behind the fronts, such as the medical, cultural, and services sections, their relevant programs will be announced later.

Navy Commander Notes Use of 'Special War Tactic'

LD311036 Tehran IRNA in English 1019 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 31, IRNA — Commander of Iran's naval forces Captain Hoseyn Malekzadegan said here Monday that in the course of the Val-Fajr-8 offensive in Al-Faw peninsula, Iran employed a special war tactic and made drastic changes in its operational military units to suit the geographical conditions of the operational theater.

Speaking to a gathering of Navy personnel here on the eve of the seventh anniversary of the Islamic Republic of Iran, April 2, the Navy commander added that Navy played an outstanding role in the said offensive.

Reiterating that Khawr 'Abdallah region had been completely mined, Captain Malekzadegan said that so far a number of Iraq battleships and boats have been destroyed.

Referrring to the activities of the Navy during the past year, the Navy commander said that the navy successfully safeguarded warm waters of Oman Sea and the Persian Gulf and inspected ships carrying armaments for the Iraqi regime.

WIH Head Discusses 'Val-Fajr-8,' UN Resolution

LD291025 Tehran IRNA in English 0925 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, March 29, IRNA — Head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr. Kamal Kharrazi in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) stressed that the Val-Fajr-8 offensive, would be continued until the achievement of final victory.

Kharrazi who had a stopover in London enroute to Tehran from the recent Havana conference of news agencies of non-aligned countries, told the BBC that the offensive was a "practical warning" to the Iraqi regime and its supporters in the region. Describing the recent resolution of the U.N. Security Council as a "positive" step, the WIH head said that condemnation of the Iraqi regime by international bodies would make world public opinion aware of Iraqi war crimes.

Of course, he added, the Islamic Republic of Iran insisting on its conditions to put an end to the war, was not interested in bloodshed and instead was willing to punish the Iraqi regime through diplomatic channels.

He reiterated Iran's repeated announcement that as soon as the war ended, the Islamic combatants of Iran would return to their country and would leave Iraq for the Iraqis to decide on their future political system.

Kharrazi said that a revolution by the Iraqis against the Baghdad regime was not unexpected since the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn had lost his reputation among regional states.

He stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran had nothing to do with the regional countries and added that when the war ended they could live a peaceful life with Iran and embark on a mutual cooperation.

He said that liberation of the Iraqi port city of Al-Faw by the Iranian combatants was of great military, political and economic importance, adding that it has halted navigation of Iraqi naval forces from Khawr 'Abdallah to the Persian Gulf.

However, Kharrazi said, the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly believed that the aggressor should be punished and be tried by a court provided that the court from the very beginning accepts that Iraqi regime is the aggressor.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Fighters Bomb Supply Centers

LD311312 Tehran IRNA in English 1259 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya', March 31, Iranian fighters flew behind Iraqi front lines in the southern war front twice Monday and bombed their supply centers, according to the headquarters for military operations here.

The first run at 10:00 (06:30 GMT) was on positions west and north of the salt lake in Iraq's Al-Faw peninsula where heavy battles have been reported by the two warring countries.

Muslim combatants of Iran captured the lower sector of the peninsula when they crossed the 500-meter wide Arvand River and stormed Iraqi positions on February 9.

The Khatam ol-Anbiya' military headquarters said planes returned safely to their base, it said. [as received]

Iraq has been reporting a three pronged counterattack in Al-Faw for the past six weeks but it has failed to report any advance.

Meanwhile seven other Iraqi troops surrendered to Muslim combatants in Al-Faw bringing the number of the "lost-hope" Iraqi soldiers to 50 in the past 48 hours.

Military analysts had earlier said Iraqi troop morale was running low as their army reached its casualty limit in battle of Al-Faw.

In United Arab Emirates Iraqi workers said wounded soldiers have been moved to hospitals in neighbouring Jordan in an effort to hide casualty figures.

According to one Iraqi engineer who had visited a relative in an Amman hospital wounded men were also sent to other neighbouring countries but he did not indicate where.

He quoted soldiers as saying that the volume of the Iranian artillery fire in the Al-Faw offensive code-named Val-Fajr-8 (Dawn-8) was unprecedented in the war.

War started on 22 September 1980 when Saddam Husayn ordered his troops into Iranian soil to capture the southern

Khuzestan Province in the hope of extending Iraq's coast line with the open sea.

Forces Destroy Bunkers, Kill 300

LD311718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] According to a report of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the mighty warriors of the corps of Islam conducted infiltration operations last night and today in the "Val-Fajr-9" operational sector. They attacked the heart of Zionist enemy positions and succeeded in destroying a large number of their bunkers and killing more than 300 troops of the Iraqi disintegrating Ba'thist Armed Forces. The warriors of Islam also captured a number of the enemy troops and transferred them behind the lines.

Also during these victorious operations, the brave combatants of Islam succeeded in destroying over 80 percent of a battalion serving under the Iraqi 8th Division. They also destroyed over 80 percent of another battalion from the 34th Division of the defeated Armed Forces of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime. The combatants of Islam encircled and completely crushed a Saddamist commando company. Following these infiltrating operations, the God-seeking warriors of the front of monotheism, after fully destroying more than two tanks, seven vehicles, three machineguns, and dozens of other heavyweight weapons, safely returned to their own positions.

Communique No 2426

LD311755 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 31 Mar 86

["Artillery Duels on All Fronts" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, March 31, IRNA — Exchange of artillery fire between Iran's Muslim combatants and Iraqi forces in northwestern battlefronts was more intense in Panjwin and Sardasht region, according to a military communique released by Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Monday.

In its Communique Number 2426, the Joint Staff Command said Iranian Muslim combatants killed or wounded a group of Iraqi troops in the front and demolished several of their bunkers as well as a bulldozer.

The communique said exchange of artillery and mortar fire also continued in western operational region. It added that exchange was more intense in Sumar and Naft-e Shah regions.

In western fronts, four Iraqi bunkers, three observation posts, three 105 mm artillery guns as well as a munitions depot were demolished by the Muslim combatants, the communique said. More than 15 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in this fronts, it added.

In southern fronts, exchange of fire was more intense in Hoseyniyeh and Al-Faw regions which caused casualties and damages to the enemy, the communique concluded.

Meanwhile, Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters said Iranian Muslim forces infiltrated Iraqi positions in northern fronts on Sunday and Monday killing more than 300 enemy soldiers and demolishing several positions.

A number of Iraqi soldiers were taken captive and transferred by the Muslim forces behind the fronts, the headquarters said. Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ. furthermore said that more than 80 per cent of a battalion of Iraq's Eighth Division as well as entire battalion of the 34 Division were destroyed.

An enemy commando company was entirely crushed in the region by Muslim combatants.

Air Force Bombs Iraqi Positions

LD010727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters announced that in the early hours of this morning several Iranian Air Force fighters heavily bombed Iraqi positions and weaponry near the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr road and the strategic bridge in the area. Having inflicted heavy losses and casualties on the disintegrating Iraqi Army, the fighters safely returned to their bases.

IRGC Sinks Iraqi Frigate

LD011103 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ., April 1, IRNA — The naval unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) attacked an advanced Iraqi frigate in Khawr 'Abdallah Monday night [31 Mar], inflicting heavy casualties on the Iraqi forces.

The Khatam ol-Anbiya' joint headquarters of the Army and the IRGC announcing this Tuesday, added that the coastal artillery fire of the IRGC combatants destroyed and sunk the frigate, killing all crew on board.

Meanwhile, the announcement said, a number of Iraqi forces including several officers and NCO's surrendered to the Islamic forces of Iran in the Val-Fajr-8 operational region Monday night and Tuesday.

Air Force Bombs Al-Faw-Basa Axis

LD011125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the fast-flying pilots of the Iranian Air Force, having bombed the Zionist enemy's positions, equipment, and weapons near the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr highway as well as a strategic bridge in the region early this morning, at 0800 also

bombed the Al-Faw-Basra axis. After inflicting heavy damage on the Zionist enemy, they returned safely to their bases.

Positions in Bakhtaran, Ilam Bombed

LD011504 Tehran IRNA in English 1501 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov., April 1, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran heavily shelled Iraqi positions, fortifications and their supply axes in Bakhtaran and Ilam battlefronts, west of Iran, over the past 24 hours.

The Muslim forces while halting the enemy's movement and engineering activities, demolished four bunkers and three observation posts of the Iraqi forces and killed or wounded 14 of them.

Commentaries Examine Bush's Upcoming Gulf Visit

ABRAR Political Commentary

LD311651 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] On the eve of the visit by U.S. Vice President George Bush to Persian Gulf region, in its political commentary *ABRAR* carries the following:

Although there are still 3 days left before Vice President Bush begins his visit to the Persian Gulf region, his press conference, and the opinions of U.S. officials, as well as the motive behind the visit are being commented on and analyzed in a great many political circles.

The motive for Bush's visit, which is to include Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, and North Yemen, aims to study the Iraq-Iran war and the fall in oil prices. Nevertheless, considering the recent victories achieved by the Islamic Republic's forces in the southern operational theater, the liberation of the strategic Al-Faw port, and the inability of the Iraqi regime's forces to confront the Iranian forces, it appears that the war and its future will constitute the main topic of Bush's discussions with the officials of the Persian Gulf's southern littoral states.

U.S. strategy vis-a-vis the imposed war, despite the voluminous propaganda by U.S. media concerning that country's neutrality, is quite clear. U.S. policy with regard to this war is based on Iran's failure to achieve victory or on ending the war by means of an American-style peace, minus any justice. Consequently, on the eve of the visit by the vice president, U.S. administration officials — after more than 2,000 days of war and at a time when even according to a simple military assessment Iran's superiority and, subsequently, victory is inevitable — have announced that any further escalation of the war would threaten the interests of both the United States and its allies in the Persian Gulf's southern littoral sector. This is taking place at a time when Islamic Iran has repeatedly announced that should the Persian Gulf southern littoral states refrain from any aggression, then not only would Iran oppose any escalation of the war in the region, but it would crush the perpetrator of tensions in the region and would restore peace and stability to the region.

Having said that, the outcome of the visit, which according to claims made by White House officials is an indication of U.S. goodwill, depends on the far-sightedness and objectivity — or lack of thereof — by the officials of the region's countries; because Washington's reassurance to southern littoral states of its support, apart from the propaganda mileage Washington is trying to make from it, is nothing but the provocation of these states to enter the war desert or to increase its support for the Saddam regime. After all, the expression of support by the United States for these countries is being raised at a time when these states are on the threshold of making a not insignificant decision; the most rational outcome of such a decision could be to separate their fate from that of Saddam's regime.

Political games are not always in line with reality, rather they are shaped parallel with them. Consequently, the victories of the Islamic Republic combatants on the battlefronts are a motive which has led Bush, as the representative of the U.S. Administration and in order to prevent the inevitable outcome of this imposed war, to visit the region so that perhaps by opening another front against the Islamic revolution, they can change the outcome of this war in favor of the United States. Nevertheless, as the most powerful government in the Persian Gulf region, the Islamic revolution will restore stability in the Persian Gulf in line with the wishes of the region's peoples and despite the desires of the superpowers, without any supervision by or diktat of the United States or any other foreign power's fleets and interference.

Tehran Radio Commentary

LD311313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] According to agency reports, the enemy's morale is weakening; as a result, his supporters are embarking on political attempts to conceal this fact. While Saddam Husayn's Arab supporters are attempting to protect his regime through their verbal and financial assistance, the United States too is trying to safeguard its own illicit interests by consolidating Saddam and his supporters. In other words, by raising the imaginary invasion of Islamic combatants and the question of the stability of the Persian Gulf states, the United States is attempting to find a suitable ground for its own extensive presence in the Persian Gulf in order to influence the course of events in the region to the detriment of the region's peoples.

Consequently, the White House announced that Reagan's vice president, George Bush, is to leave for the region on Thursday to visit several states of the Persian Gulf. He is to visit Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, and North Yemen. He has said that a visit to Kuwait might provoke Iran, therefore he is not going to visit that country. The most important topic of discussions between Bush and the leaders of the states he is visiting will be the current status of the imposed war. According to a senior White House official, the visit to the region will reassure friends of the United States in the area that the United States is behind them.

As has been declared on a great number of occasions, the Islamic Republic of Iran has made the utmost effort to confine the war to its present theater. As for the future, it will do its best to prevent the war from spreading to other areas. However, there is no doubt that to achieve this it is necessary for other Persian Gulf states to cooperate as well. The best guarantee is for these states to adopt a policy of neutrality and to stop their material and psychological assistance to Saddam Husayn.

Meanwhile, it should be pointed out that the continuation of consistent and comprehensive support for Saddam's regime as well as reliance on U.S. political and military support in tackling the region's problems will serve no other purpose than an increase in interference by the White House in regional issues and, consequently, the emergence of further internal problems for these states.

Ayatollah Shari'atmadari Suffering From Cancer

GF301614 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] The followers of Ayatollah Shari'atmadari are very angry at the insulting treatment which has been accorded to the ayatollah by the Islamic Republic regime.

KEYHAN newspaper, printed in Tehran, in its Thursday night edition has apparently quoted families of martyrs complaining about the fact that Ayatollah Shari'atmadari has been hospitalized in Tehran's Mehrdad hospital.

According to *KEYHAN*: Now that the country's hospitals are filled to the brim with war wounded, why has Mr Shari'atmadari, whom the paper says has committed treason against the Islamic revolution and who is suffering from advanced cancer of the kidney, been hospitalized in Mehrdad hospital?

According to *KEYHAN*, which published the views of the Islamic Republic, Mr Shari'atmadari is occupying a bed which should be given to war wounded.

Analysts believe that the article in *KEYHAN* is, on the one hand, an admission of the mind-boggling numbers of war wounded and, on the other hand, shows the inhuman face of Khomeyni's regime which is objecting to the hospitalization of an old man.

According to reports received, the followers of Ayatollah Shari'atmadari are very angry about the behavior of the regime.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 APRIL 1986

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio stated that Iraqi troops crushed Iran's latest attack in the north, killing 842 Iranians and wounding an even larger number. The communique also said Iraqi planes raided Khark Island and hit another "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast. In the Strait of Hormuz, the Iranian Navy intercepted a cargo ship suspected of carrying goods to Iraq, according to a military communique reported by IRNA.

Iraqi Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid told a visiting Kuwaiti parliamentary delegation that Iraq suffered huge casualties in the battles round Al-Faw, but he said that Iran's losses were far greater and that Iraq is fully capable of expelling the Iranians from Al-Faw, Kuwait's *ARAB TIMES* reported 31 March.

Lebanon

Two British teachers at the American University of Beirut (AUB) are missing, presumed kidnapped, according to an AUB source cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Jordan-PLO

"Miscalculated" unilateral moves by either Jordan or the PLO will have "grave consequences," PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said in an interview with a Lebanese weekly cited by KUNA. He noted that his calls for reconciliation with King Husayn have met with no response and that "a common ground remains distant." 'Arafat subsequently confirmed that the PLO liaison office in Ammar has been closed, according to Radio Monte Carlo, though he pointed out that the closure was based on a joint agreement between the PLO and Jordan.

King Husayn acknowledged that his differences with the PLO are "serious" during an interview with *JANE'S DEFENSE* weekly reported by the Amman paper *SAWT AL-SHA'B*. The king also blamed the Reagan administration for the U.S. failure to meet Jordan's weapons requirements, stressing that Jordan will turn to other sources such as France, Britain, and the Soviet Union.

Egypt

AL-AHRAM disclosed 2 April that the authorities have charged some 3,000 people with offenses committed during the recent riots, according to AFP.

In another development, JANA announced the arrival in Tripoli of an Egyptian Socialist Labor Party delegation headed by party leader Ibrahim Shukri. Meanwhile, Libya's Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio claimed that Egyptian air defense soldiers based west of Cairo staged a mutiny 1 April.

As for the seventh round of Taba talks, which concluded in Cairo 1 April, an Egyptian spokesman cited by MENA acknowledged that differences still exist on the main subjects, including the names of the arbitrators and the question to be referred to them. Jerusalem radio said the talks will resume in 2 weeks.

Sudan

Government forces killed over 200 rebels in an attack on a rebel camp in the Eastern Equatoria region 30 March, SUNA reported. Omdurman radio announced that the polling centers were "calm and peaceful" 1 April as voters "throughout the country" went to the polls on the first day of the National Assembly elections.

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Party, State Leaders Discuss Land, Water Reform

LD301359 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] The 12th general session of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA Council of Ministers was held at the Headquarters of the Revolutionary Council this afternoon, 29 March, for the continuation of the implementation of the land and water reform with the participation of a number of the members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee, officials and a number of the employees of the departments of the Central Committee, heads of the zones, secretaries of the party provincial committees, governors and chairmen of the executive office of the council of the representatives of the people of the provinces.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and Saleh Muhammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee spoke at the session.

It was pointed out in the session that all the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee's 17th Plenum and the guidance of the Babrak Karmal speech, in which the peasants' case was particularly stressed, should be transformed into a work and life procedure of all party, all state apparatuses and all the social organizations.

The land and water reform process should be carried on with the providing of real voluntary and all around participation of the peasants together with the extending of financial, material and technical aid to them.

It was also pointed out that exact observation of legality and respect for the laudable customs and traditions of the people are necessary.

It was made clear in the session that the land and water reform should be transformed into an (?instrument) for wide attraction of the masses of peasants in defense of revolution and their participation in the process of social change and improvement in the level of the agricultural yield.

'Abdul Ghaffar Lakanwal, agriculture and land reform minister; Muhammad Shah Sorkhabi, irrigation and water resource minister; and a number of the secretaries of the party provincial committees, governors and chairmen of the provincial executive committees of the council of representatives spoke in the session and discussed their demands and proposals.

The session ended with the issuing of instructions and establishing the basic guidelines of work for the improvement of the land and water reform performance, improvement in the extending of state aid to the peasants and (?obtaining noticeble promotion for effectiveness use of the land) in order to increase the level of the yield in the current year.

U.S. To Provide 'Stingers' to Counterrevolutionaries

LD012043 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 1 Apr 86

[BAKHTAR commentary]

[Excerpts] According to reports carried in the U.S. press, the Reagan administration is to give Afghan counterrevolutionaries modern weapons for the continuation of the undeclared war. These weapons include the new Stinger rockets, capable of being fired from the shoulder against surface or aerial targets.

The decision of the Reagan administration to supply the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with such advanced weapons was kept secret until now. Previously [name indistinct], a high ranking U.S. imperialist official said nothing about this, while such assistance was being secretly given to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries by the CIA.

The Washington administration, in order to justify its reactionary and aggressive policy, has embarked on the so-called tale of Moscow's hand and the threat of communism being used since the time of the October Revolution. The world's public knows very well that the objective of the U.S. policy is to crush the national and democratic movements in the world. Its policy against the DRA — whereby the U.S. Administration gives the most advanced weapons to Afghan counterrevolutionaries — can very well be perceived. The responsibility for all unrest in the world, and in our region in particular with killings and destruction in the DRA by the counterrevolutionaries, rests with U.S. imperialism and its allies.

Pakistan Strives for Nuclear Arms With U.S. Aid

LD300555 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 29, BAKHTAR — With the assistance of the USA, Pakistan strives to attain the capability of producing nuclear weapons, writes a BAKHTAR commentator.

The nuclear ambitions of the Ziaul Haq regime, supported and encouraged by the Washington administration, have increased the anxiety of the world public, in particular, the neighbouring countries.

Political observers believe that Islamabad has also included the development and production of nuclear weapons in Pakistan within the framework of its new military deal with Washington.

Undeniable evidences are at hand that the Washington administration wants to all-sidely Pakistan to become a nuclear power of the region such as Israel and South Africa aimed at safeguarding the U.S. interests. [sentence as received]

The feverish quests of Islamabad for acquiring nuclear weapons is well apprehensible, in particular, with the appointment of Abdul Qadir Khan as the president of the atomic energy of that country.

Abdul Qadir Khan is a notorious Pakistani citizen who was sentenced to four years imprisonment by a Dutch court on the

charge of stealing nuclear secrets from nuclear plant of that country.

It goes without saying that the USA chose the Ziaul Haq regime as the defender of its interests and objectives after the collapse of the shah of Iran.

In order to drag Islamabad into the US strategic noose in the Asian Continent, the Washington administration has put most sophisticated weapons at the disposal of Pakistan.

The supplying of 40 F-16 fighter planes, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons, the construction of airfields for conducting of military operations in Pakistan, providing military facilities for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in Pakistan, setting up of large espionage radar installations and other military installations in the territory of Paksitan are evidences that the Islamabad regime is playing the role of a gendarme of the region in the interest of the USA.

The Indian Government has expressed its anxiety on several occasions on militarisation of Pakistan by the USA, in particular the acquisition of nuclear weapons by Pakistan.

The provocations of the Islamabad regime against India and the carrying on of the imperialistic undeclared war against the DRA, in which the Ziaul Haq regime plays the main role, are indicative of the fact that the military ambitions of Pakistan will [words indistinct] with the acquisition of nuclear weapons with the help of the USA.

The world press, among others, Western press, have already disclosed the fact that the Islamabad regime is capable of producing five nuclear weapons annually with the help of U.S. technology.

While the people of Afghanistan, the peoples of India and Pakistan as well as all peace-loving forces of the whole world demand nuclear disarmament, they are appealing to all world public that the war-mongering and unpopular regimes such as the Islamabad regime, the Israeli Zionism and the apartheid regime of South Africa should not be given the opportunity to put the security of the world in stake.

Mujahidin Repulse Soviet Offensive in Konarha

GF020631 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Afghan mujahidin sources have said that the mujahidin are currently besieging a number of Soviet invasion troops who yesterday carried out an aerial landing operation in Konarha Province.

The Afghan mujahidin killed more than 200 Soviet invasion troops and wounded a large number during their confrontation of the large-scale aerial landing. The Soviet forces landed more than 2,000 Soviet commando troops around (Usama ibn Zayd) camp near the Pakistani border in Konarha. The aerial landing was carried out all around the camp in an attempt to besiege and destroy it and to exterminate the mujahidin inside.

During the past 24 hours, violent and bloody battles took place in which all kinds of weapons were used, including bayonets. Large numbers of helicopters were seen landing further numbers of the attacking troops and transporting the wounded and corpses.

Afghan mujahidin sources said that 25 mujahidin were martyred and 35 others were wounded.

Bhagat, UK's Howe Give Banquet Speeches

BK011419 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 1 April 86

[Text] Britain has assured India that it would do the utmost to prevent its territory from being used as a haven for terrorists. Speaking at a dinner hosted in his honor by the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said that Britain is prepared to work with India in every way to demonstrate to the terrorists that their activities have no place in our society. The British Government is also determined to take all measures within the law to deal as severely as possible with terrorists.

Mr Bhagat in his speech called for firm and sustained action to restrain the activities of extremists directed against India. Such activities have caused New Delhi anxieties and concern and it is difficult for our people to understand how a small group of such elements in Britain can operate (?openly) and with impunity, he said.

Swiss Foreign Minister Confers With Bhagat

BK020403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The Swiss foreign minister, Mr Pierre Aubert, now in the capital on an official visit, has had a wide-ranging exchange of views on international issues and bilateral matters with the external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat. They regretted that there has been no progress on the question of nuclear disarmament and a comprehensive ban on nuclear tests despite last year's U.S.-Soviet summit meeting.

Steel Minister Meets With Soviet Deputy Minister

BK020357 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The first deputy minister in the Ministry of Metallurgy of the Soviet Union, Mr L.V. Radyukevich, met the minister for steel and mines, Mr K.C. Pant, in New Delhi. They reviewed the cooperation between the two countries in the field of metallurgical sector.

USSR Turns Down West Bengal Oil Project

BK301044 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 17 Mar 86 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] New Delhi, March 16 — The Soviet Union has declined to take up integrated exploration assignment in the West Bengal basin although it had earlier pronounced that the region was replete with potential hydrocarbon bearing blocks.

After doing detailed analysis of the entire West Bengal basin, the Soviet oil experts had maintained that the onshore region was very prospective for both oil and gas.

But lately when India offered to the Soviet Union to take up seismic surveys and drilling operations on its own in onshore West Bengal, the Soviet oil organisations did not evince any interest. They also shied away from the alternative offer of blocks in the Himalayan foothills.

Instead, the Soviets were keen to take intensive integrated exploration programme in North Cambay and Cauvery basins where more positive indications of hydrocarbon deposits have been available.

According to informed sources, ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] was not initially willing to part with blocks in North Cambay and Cauvery basins where it had already been operating. In fact, ONGC has struck oil in Cauvery basin and only recently started production at Narimanan, through early production system, to supply crude to Madras refinery.

Nonetheless, India agreed to assign blocks in North Cambay and Cauvery basins to Soviet Union, primarily, because of an attractive credit package offered by the latter. Constraint of resources has been a major impediment in the way of India accelerating exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbon in the Indian sedimentary basins to meet the growing demand of oil. In view of this, the Government has announced last month third round of bidding inviting foreign investment for exploration work in this country.

A protocol signed between the two countries recently envisages an intensive integrated exploration and development programme by the Soviet Union in North Cambay and Cauvery basins. A feasibility report of the programme drawn by the Soviet experts has already been submitted.

Although the Indo-Soviet cooperation in the oil sector dates back to 1955, it is for the first time that a total turnkey assignment of this nature has been taken by the Soviet side. The programme is in pursuance of the agreements signed in Moscow in May last year between the two countries on economic, trade and scientific and technical cooperation.

Joint Economic Commission With Poland Meets in Delhi

BK020401 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The Indo-Polish joint commission on economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation has begun its meeting in New Delhi. Both the countries are to sign two agreements for cooperation in the field of underground coal mining.

Bhutanese Delegation Discusses Aid During Visit

BK010957 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0902 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] A delegation from the Royal Government of Bhutan led by H E Dasho Lam Penjor, deputy planning minister, visited India from 23 to 27 March. Discussions were held on Indian assistance for Bhutan's Fifth Five Year Plan which is entering its last year. The Indian side was led by K. Srinivasan, joint secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

Agreement was reached on the level of Indian assistance to Bhutan's fifth plan which will total 141 crore rupees. This was apart from various Indo-Bhutan projects currently under implementation. Discussions were held also on various projects identified for Indian participation in sixth plan period from 1987 to 1992. Further discussions on Bhutan's sixth plan are expected to take place in autumn this year.

'Further Improvement' in Punjab Situation Noted

BK020316 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab, with the further improvement in the situation in Jullundur and Nakodar, the relaxation in the curfew is being extended from today. In Jullundur, the curfew is being relaxed for 12 hours from 0700 and in Nakodar for 10 hours from 0800.

The state government has decided to extend the date of voluntary declaration to surrender all illegal arms and ammunition till the end of this month. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that all those who declare will not attract any penal action under the arms act.

Bhopal Victims Warned on Union Carbide Offer

BK020359 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The Madhya Pradesh government has warned the people in Bhopal against certain elemtnts who are persuading the gas leakage victims to accept compensation under the so-called agreement with the Union Carbide Corporation. In an appeal to the people, the government said that some persons are spreading rumors that their cases might be dismissed from the American courts if they refuse to accept the compensation. This is totally baseless, the appeal said.

Involvement in Sri Lankan Ethnic Troubles Denied

BK291232 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English
15 Mar 86 p 5

[Editorial: 'Crying Wolf']

[Text] Sri Lanka National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali has offered extension of the suspension of air raids on Jaffna if militants "stopped bringing arms, ammunition and trained men from India". It contains a dangerous but totally baseless allegation. It has not come as any surprise to Indians because a particular section of the media in Asia and abroad has been spreading the canard that India is behind the Sri Lanka trouble.

One does not have to make any serious study of what this media section publishes about India and Sri Lanka and other issues concerning India to make out political forces behind it.

However, this is not the first time that this media section and certain countries have sought to paint a wrong picture about India — distorting facts sometimes without realising how and when they themselves could be victims of the falsehood they are spreading.

An example is the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and the U.S. arms supply to Pakistan. Although the Soviets had entered Afghanistan only six years ago and the U.S. arms aid has been going on for more than three decades, these two facts are connected artificially just to justify the U.S. supplies. Even the Western analysts now admit the absurdity of attempts to establish a nexus of this type.

It is also admitted that the Soviet presence is the effect (though not wholly so because the Soviets are there in response to the Afghan government's initiative) and not the cause of the U.S. arms aid to Pakistan. These lessons of very recent history should not be forgotten especially by Sri Lanka. Mr Athulathmudali's charge — if he is really serious — that support to the Sri Lanka rebels was coming from India preposterous and fraught with dangerous implications. A sea lane divides the two countries and any smuggling would have to be possible only through this lane and this cannot escape detection for long.

Thus, apart from the absolutely impossible proposition from the practical point of view, India is against interfering in the internal affairs of other countries. If indeed India believed otherwise, the sub-continental situation would not have been what it is today. As Foreign Minister B.R. Bhagat has told Parliament India is keen on helping a political solution to the ethnic problem. But for that Sri Lanka should stop crying wolf.

Editorial Examines Zia's Comments on Israel

GF011602 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 25 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Softening on Zionism"]

[Text] Of late, disturbing voices have emanated from influential quarters, official and non-official, which are clearly designed to demonstrate a softening of Pakistan's stand on the Palestinian issue. In an interview with a Gulf daily, President Ziaul Haq urged mutual recognition by Israel and PLO and indicated for the first time that Pakistan might recognise the Zionist entity "after the Arabs have done so". Echoing this policy volte-face, Jama'at-i-Islami Chief Mian Tufail Muhammad referred to Israel as "a reality and the strongest country of the Middle East."

We would hope that such statements are not meant as trial balloons to test public opinion, as the first step towards a reversal of policy. The overriding aspect that must be kept in mind is that Palestine is not an Arab issue but one affecting the whole Muslim world as well as the Third World. Israel, as an illegitimate offspring of Western imperial designs transplanted into the Islamic heartland, strikes at the very core of the Muslim sense of identity and purpose. It is thus no accident that the Zionist entity's principal patron and godfather, the United States of America, is perceived by Muslims as the best friend of the Muslim world's greatest enemy. Hence the widespread anti-Americanism in the region.

For Pakistan and the Palestinians, any policy other than that of unrelenting struggle against Zionism is simply unacceptable. If President Zia is posturing under pressure, then it is understandable as long as the policy contours remain firm. For the Jama'at, which makes tall claims of piety and principles, to do so is a shameful negation of its professed policies and would only reflect its political and moral bankruptcy. Would this imply, under the Jama'at's convoluted logic, that Jihad is only permissible as long as it serves American interests?

THE MUSLIM Views Junejo's Stand on Alliances

GF011610 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 25 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Prime Minister's Assurance"]

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad Khan Junejo in his first major policy statement on foreign relations has assured the nation that his government was opposed to military alliances and would not become an ally of any superpower. He has also renewed the country's commitment to the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and friendly relations with all neighbours on a bilateral basis. Nothing could be more heartening on Pakistan Day than this re-affirmation of the country's sovereign right to determine its own destiny freely.

Though Pakistan is no longer a member of any military alliance and we have in the past proclaimed our adherence to non-alignment, our long association with the U.S. and dependence on its aid has given us the image of a U.S. ally. The U.S. wants us to play the role of a "front-line state" and has often put pressure on us to pursue policies which do not conform to our national interests. The prime minister's reassurance should help to dispel apprehensions that Pakistan might succumb to such pressures and once again take a path which in the past has done us immense harm. As a self-respecting sovereign nation we have to maintain equidistance from both the superpowers, so that neither can take us for granted.

Reportage on Afghan Mujahidin Operations

MIG Shot Down

BK020231 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the Afghan mujahidin shot down a Soviet MIG aircraft and three helicopter gunship in a recent major operation in (?Ghowr) Province. Some 65 Soviet-Karmal soldiers were reportedly killed and 84 wounded in the shooting.

Details of Qandahar Airport Attack

BK020623 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin fired rockets at Qandahar airport last Friday [28 February], destroying 2 helicopters, 2 aircraft, and 5 tanks and killing or wounding 40 Soviet-Karmal soldiers. The mujahidin say they launched this attack in retaliation for the Soviet-Karmal forces' attack on their position southern Afghanistan last month.

NEPAL

Congress Party To Boycott Upcoming Elections

BK011455 Hong Kong AFP in English 1356 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Kathmandu, April 1 (AFP) - The banned Nepali Congress Party is to boycott national elections next month, following the breakdown of negotiations with the government, party sources said here Tuesday.

The two sides failed to reach agreement on concessions demanded by the Congress during a second round of talks late Monday, and the party was therefore "obliged" to boycott the May 12 election, the sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"This has left us with no other option than to boycott the general election and launch a peaceful non-violent movement throughout the country... immediately after the election," a senior spokesman of the banned party said.

The president of a second party banned under Nepal's partyless Panchayat system, Dilli Raman Regmi of the National Congress, also said Tuesday that this party would not contest the election under the present circumstances and the existing Constitution.

Nepali Congress President Krishna Prasad Bhattari and General Secretary Girja Prasad Koirala first met with Prime Minister Nagendra Prasad Rijal Friday, when both sides reportedly offered what they considered "maximum concessions."

Mr. Rijal assured the Nepali Congress leaders during that meeting that they would be allowed to hold rallies and campaign in the name of their outlawed party in the runup to the elections.

The Congress leaders asked for Mr Rijal's cooperation in obtaining changes in the present constitution on such points as the requirement to take an oath in the name of the Panchayat both before filing a candidacy and after winning an election, the party sources said.

The party then postponed to Wednesday a formal announcement on whether to take part in the election, in the hope of meeting with King Birendra and obtaining the constitutional concessions.

But the party leaders were asked instead to meet again with Mr Rijal late Monday to finalise the negotiations, and the talks between the government and the country's largest pro-Democratic Party ended in "total failure," the party sources said.

The Nepali Congress had also asked to be allowed to field candidates from across the country for the 112 Panchayat seats under a single party symbol.

Panchayat leaders had felt that this would violate the partyless Panchayat policy and that candidates "should take part in the election on an individual basis without any party colour," a Panchayat spokesman said.

Mr Regmi of the National Congress said that his party "will not contest the election until the introduction of the plural society and until major changes are brought in the Constitution."

He described the present Constitution as anti-democratic and said that the country was facing a critical economic and political crisis which could not be solved without the establishment of a multi-party system of government and the dissolution of the Panchayat system.

The chairman and vice-chairman of the National Panchayat meanwhile resigned to be able to contest the May 12 election, an official statement said Tuesday.

King Birendra had accepted the resignations of Marich Man Singh and Gopal Chandra Rajbanshi, the statement added.

SRI LANKA

2 'Terrorists' Killed in Gunbattle With Forces

BK011149 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Four Special Task Force [STF] commandos were seriously injured and two terrorists died when a security patrol was ambushed at (Wantulaimule) in eastern Sri Lanka during the early hours of yesterday. Security forces said that the commandos from the (Morakunachche) camp were going toward Kiran when terrorists who had been [word indistinct] ambush had hurled hand grenades and shot at them; commandos injured and two terrorists were killed. The terrorists fleed when reinforcements from the (Morakunahche) and Kiran STF camps arrived. In a search operation that followed, STF commandos found the bodies of two terrorists. The injured STF men were rushed to the (Wallechenai) hospital. The STF commandos recovered [word indistinct] automatic weapons and grenades.

In a separate incident at (Morakunachche) on Sunday [30 March], terrorists shot at a group of STF commandos conducting a search operation. There were no casualties among the STF personnel.

A timing device was found in front of the Technical College, Colombo, last night. The army bomb disposal unit which was notified arrived at the scene immediately and exploded the timing device. It is estimated that 5 to 6 kilograms of explosives were packed in the device which on exploding [word indistinct] of about 2-foot deep.

Celebrations Held To Mark Republic's Anniversary

Musavi Speaks at University

LD011322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Speech by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi at Tehran University on 1 April, on the occasion of 12 Farvardin (1 April) celebrations to mark the anniversary of the Islamic Republic — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the imam of the nation, [cheers and slogans] the leader of the oppressed and the Islamic revolution. [cheers] Greetings, to the pure souls of the martyrs of the Islamic Revolution!

Our nation has shown that returning to Islam is the only way to honor, dignity, and independence for enslaved nations. It has shown that this is a successful experience.

Dear brothers and sisters, our country is the most independent country. Our country has been able to withstand waves of international plots which would have crushed any other regime. We are now in a position to sit in judgement and say that in the future this regime will be able to combat and defeat these pagan, apostate, and arrogant regimes more strongly than before. [cheers]

Are we stronger or weaker than we were in 1979? Did we have these united and alert mobilization forces then? Did we have a corps, the jihad, the Constitution, the Majlis? Did we have this extensive social awareness? Did we have an independent economy? Thanks to this economy we managed to end the year 1364 [ending 20 March 1985] better than 1363 [ending 20 March 1984], despite the fall in oil prices due to international plots, which shook all oil producing countries; our economy improved despite all the plots, the pressure of war, and the extensive difficulties placed in our path by the arrogant powers. No doubt we shall end this year with more steafastness and strength and with victory, God willing. [cheers]

Today, we are stronger than ever. We have the mobilization forces and the corps. Today, we have raised the banner of Islam to protect Islam and the Koran and to sever the hand of the aggressor. That same war which was waged to destroy the revolution has today turned into a storm to uproot arrogant powers in the region. Why are these reactionary powers screaming? Who are they afraid of? If they are for their people, if they are sound, if they are not dependent on the United States, why are they making such a noise? We agree with them. We agree that any country in the region which is dependent on the United States should be afraid of our Islamic revolution. We advise them that this dependence was of no use to the shah's regime, it was of no use to any independent power, and it will be of no use to them. To support Saddam and the 'Afliqist regime to bring about the destruction of the Islamic revolution is a waste of time.

Look at the opposition — those who tried to disrupt and defeat the system by relying on these same powers. Look at this university which they tried to turn into a battle front against the Islamic revolution. Look at today and the Friday prayers. Consider the disgrace of these individuals who are under the protection of superpowers. Those who were talking about a people's democratic republic are today taking souvenir photographs with King Husayn or seeking protection from apostate European socialisys and Mitterrand, in order to save what's left of them.

During this time our enemies tried not only to exaggerate our weak point but to make our strong points appear weak. Unfortunately, there were some ignorant friends who were deceived by them. Under conditions of war and revolution, instead of relying on our strong points against arrogant powers and instead of considering the fact that despite the imposed war; despite these plots and pressures in the Persian Gulf regarding the sale of oil, war, and defense matters; and despite everything else we have been able to achieve the lowest inflation rate in the world, they talk about our country's economic weaknesses. Our enemies take advantage of their remarks. We say to them: What country do you know, which used to be run at a cost of $40 billion with a population of about 34 million, could today in the year 1364 [as heard], manage the war and its economy on $15 billion? This does not mean that there is no pressure nor does this mean that we have no oil. This does not mean that we have no problems. This means that this country is not dependent on the United States. It means that this country no longer relies on oil resources and revenues but that it relies on creative, popular, and revolutionary forces. [cheers]

Our direct enemy, as admitted by reactionary powers in the region, has borrowed more than $50 billion to continue the war to destroy the Islamic revolution. From whom have we borrowed? We have repaid past loans. It is an appropriate point to mention 1 April: We are the only Third World country which is not in debt to world powers. We are the only country which can manage its own economy, war, and culture and not beg from anybody, and does not depend on any power, for the sake of our independence, our revolutionary people, and our popular Hezbollahi forces. [cheers]

Five years after the outset of the war and these plots and pressures, we are stronger than ever shouting our antiarrogant slogans. Today, we shout the slogan with even greater strength: "War, War, Until Victory!"

In connection with the U.S. warmongering and aggression, we still adhere to the same stance that we had on 11 February 1979 and 1 April 1979. We fought against U.S. aggression, hostility, hegemony, and crimes. We have stood against U.S. greed in the region and the world of Islam, and while vastly exposing the United States in the Islamic world, we have delivered deadly blows against it. The United States, once again, is demonstrating its bullying might to the Third World countries and the Islamic states. We, once again, announce this stance: that the struggle against the United States and its greed in the entire Islamic world and in our country will continue in various forms with the same power and ferocity as the early days of the revolution. The struggle will continue as before! [shouts: "God is greatest"]

We declare that despite the economic pressure and the imposed war and despite these countless conspiracies in various forms —

as we have powerfully shown up to now — none of these conspiracies will halt our movement toward a self-sufficient economy. Our movement will continue without us having to stretch begging bowls to any power. This policy will continue with greater might and power by our nation and the serving government, God willing. [shouts of approval] They had a futile hope that economic pressure would harm us, but it did not. They, recently hatched the conspiracy of lowering oil prices. However, a nation that has survived ups and downs and struggled against hardship, an aware nation that is working hard and producing, a nation that has returned to Islam, has demonstrated that it is capable of withstanding these ups and downs. We organized our affairs somehow and we shall rely on our nation, its vigilance, its creativity, and its initiative, which continues irrespective of the international problems and the pressure imposed from outside aimed at bending us toward the left or the right. We shall succeed with our capable hands, in continuing our independent policies, our economy, and our policy of: neither East nor West, Islamic Republic is best, with greater might, God willing. [shouts: "God is greatest," "Khomeyni is the leader!" and "Death to the United States, Israel, Saddam, and imperialism!"]

The last point that I would like to explain to the brothers and sisters is the fact that the imam of the nation named this day as the day of victory of the oppressed over the arrogant. He named this day in the year 1357 [beginning 21 March 1978] in our country. The government will, God willing, continue its policy of supporting the meek. It will rely on the oppressed, those who donate blood, those who form our dear mobilization forces, those who are defending borders of islam, and those who are shouldering the heavy burden of this revolution and have shown that they have the capability of tolerating this burden and carrying out this divine mission. The government and the dear nation will continue these policies to which the government is a servant, God willing. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you all. [shouts: "God is greatest"]

Further on Musavi Speech

LD011006 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0808 GMT 1 apr 86

["Excerpt" of speech by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi made "a few minutes ago" at Tehran University on the occasion of the "Day of God," 12 Farvardin (1 April), celebrating the 1979 national referendum establishing the Islamic basis of the Iranian Government — recorded]

[Text] Greetings to the combatants who are defending the great achievements of this Day of God in 1358 [1979] with their blood and lives.

As we celebrate this day our system, which is based on revolutionary principles, is more stable than ever. This is a sign of the success of these principles and the revolution and the correctness of the people's vote on 1 April 1979.

On that day there were some people who proposed a people's democratic republic, a republic, or a democratic Islamic republic. The imam called for an Islamic republic — not one word more nor one word less. Those monarchists who sought a republic, those liberals who proposed a democratic Islamic republic, and those left-wing groups affiliated to the East and the West who proposed a people's democratic republic all received less than 2 percent of the people's vote, because as a result of their experience in previous decades with these powers and movements, the people had chosen their path.

Today we are at a point where we can judge whether the people's judgment, vote, and movement — this movement and slogan of the imam — were correct or not. Today we have stronger evidence than in the past to show how penetrating the vision of the revolutionary leadership was, how strong and correct the people's feelings were toward the future and their own system and goals.

As we celebrate this day, all the hopes and dreams of the big powers for the downfall of this regime have failed. You all know that they had predicted that the holy regime of the Islamic Republic would fall in 2 or 3 months. They predicted that this regime would not be able to stand on its own feet from a military, political, cultural, and economic viewpoint. As one of the liberal leaders said at that time, they considered the establishment of Islam neither beneficial nor possible.

Today, in our present position, our nation's movement, self-sacrifice, and steadfastness have shown not only that the establishment of Islam is possible, but also that it is the only means for liberating mankind from the arrogant powers.

Ceremony Held in Tehran

LD011415 Tehran IRNA in English 1401 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, April 1, IRNA — Muslim Iranians held nationwide ceremonies Tuesday to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran and renew their allegiance with the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni.

In Tehran people in well-organized ranks marched towards Tehran University to participate in a ceremony there to mark the occasion.

The marchers, chanting slogans such as "War, War Until Victory", "Death to the U.S." and "We Will Die but Will Never Yield to Compromise" arrived at Tehran University campus.

A large number of Iranian Muslim combatants including 10 divisions of Al-Quds reserve forces were among the marchers who announced their preparedness to fight against enemies of Islam and Iran.

Members of one of the divisions were equipped with gas masks and other protective means against chemical weapons.

Many domestic and foreign reporters, film makers and photographers were present at the ceremony to file reports and take films and photographs.

At Tehran University campus, where the crowd gathered to hold the ceremony, a message from the Islamic combatants was read.

Referring to the braveries of Muslim forces of Iran in recent Val-Fajr-8 offensive, the message said that the Iraqi regime and Ba'th Party, sustaining fatal blows by the Iranian forces, were going to be eradicated from the region.

It also called on people from all strata to rush to battlefields to continue the fight until the achievement of final victory.

Speaking to the gathering Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi elaborated the developments achieved in the country since the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran and emphasized on the continuation of the campaign against global arrogance.

Musavi Interviewed on Combating Imperialism

GF301432 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian
13 Mar 86 p 18, 19

["Exclusive" interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified *KEYHAN* correspondent in Tehran — date not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] What peculiarities do the bases of imperialism have in the Third World and what successes have the Islamic revolution and the system of the Islamic Republic so far had in combating imperialistic bases?

[Musavi] This is a very detailed question. It concerns ideological as well newsworthy aspects. Imperialism and world-devouring, according to our school of thought, has its roots in the lust to acquire more and more from human beings. Sometimes this lust acquires the form of a worthy system and wins the society over to its own views. Then in its own interests this society starts to extend its hands of aggression toward every point in the world.

Of course, neo-imperialism, which can largely be attributed to American capitalism, is subjected to various views and a subject worth debating. However, if we do not take this peculiarity into consideration and explain imperialism as an oppressive power and its lust for devouring the world, we cannot say that there is only one single power which falls into this category, as all other despotic regimes could also be similarly categorized. During the present circumstances, it is attributed mostly to economic imperialism in Third World countries, but we know by experience that imperialism covets material gains, and swallows the wealth and resources of nations — whether in the form of their manpower, natural resources, or other similar assets — in order to run large metropolitan colonial client states. The grounds for this form of colonialism are provided by a related sort of cultural imperialism.

In other words, imperialist control is effective only when a society can accept a different culture or a different domination. It is quite possible that a culture may not submit to foreign dominance, and begin to resist and confront the imperialistic elements. Naturally, if this resistance originates from a cultural aspect, it does not remain only within the cultural limits, but influences economic and political regions as well.

What I want to say is that according to our experience the main peculiarity and the most dangerous aspect of imperialism, I believe, is their cultural domination of the Third World. Our greatest weapon against imperialism is alertness and awareness in the Third World. This weapon can weaken the bases of imperialism. Of course, this alertness does not remain confined to within a country's national framework, but can outgrow the borders so far that it might even affect the invading and the world-expanding countries. This is because the major problem here is divine conscience and the disposition of human beings and their pro-expansion aspect.

If we explain our own revolution in these terms, we can say that our nation has faced world devourers, especially recently, and the deep and widespread influence of the United States in the political, military, and economic dimensions of our country. However, when awareness and alertness comes in society, people rise to valuable systems and seek guidance from Islam. We see that the foundation imperialism had laid in our country to spread its influence is becoming weak and is collapsing like a house of cards. Of course, sacrifices have to be offered, but the fall of the strongholds built for the shah's regime was a shock to the big powers as well.

The United States became so frightened that in their haste they established classes at the State Department during January-February 1978 to teach Islam under the guidance of an American writer named (Zioncse). The same writer wrote a book titled *Top Political Figures in Iran*, which he had written after several years' research prior to the revolution. It dealt mostly with the situation in Iran as seen by the Zionists. A chapter in the book dealt with the top opposition members and covered the national front, the Tudeh Party, the liberation movement, and Engineer Bazargan, but concerning the imam there was but a single sentence. This indicates the blindness of the imperialism and the happenings within Iranian society. In any case we can discuss our anti-imperialist campaign in its various dimensions.

In one aspect we find the Islamic revolution is the strongest opponent of the imperialists; but in another aspect, our success in this does not correspond to the high aspirations of the revolution. To explain the first dimension, I will refer only to the present day situation. Let us see what the United States is afraid of in the world today and against whom it has mobilized all its forces. If we were to judge from the words which we find in dispatches and in their analysis, we could at least see some of the effects of the Islamic revolution in its campaign against the United States. If we look at the radio programs of the United States, we can see a very small degree of the depth of the hostility of our system in the eyes of the American imperialists.

A certain foreign radio program referred to the influence of the Islamic revolution in a country in the Far East. Although they use this terminology in a satirical and biting way, we welcome it. The mention of the influence of the Islamic revolution in a Far Eastern country which is very vital to U.S. defense strategy indicates the success of the Islamic revolution.

In Afghanistan, where Soviet forces are present, it seems that only anti-Soviet slogans were being chanted; however, thanks to the Islamic revolution and the strong campaign of the Islamic Republic against the United States, the people of Afghanistan now realize that anti-Soviet slogans do not mean pro-American slogans, and therefore the people of Afghanistan chant slogans

against the Soviet Union as well against the United States. This is due to the influence of the Islamic revolution. In the Middle East and in other points of the world which are considered to be bases of U.S. policies, Marxist and other ideologies vis-a-vis the Islamic revolution are downplayed. In such areas Marxism and other ideologies are not given any importance and they do not play any decisive role. The Islamic revolution is considered a danger to American interests, and has an effect on the lives of the people of the world, especially the Islamic nations. For example, the minister of culture of Nicaragua, who was a clergyman, is also one of the best poets in Latin America. He has written a poem on the imam and a book in the name of the Islamic revolution. During our visit to Nicaragua the Christian militant clergy used to say that the qualities which the imam has related about Christ are acceptable to them. Therefore, I believe that the Islamic revolution in its campaign against imperialism, in the form of neither East nor West, has been successful.

With regard to the aspect that our successes have not been equal to our aspirations, we should say that hegemony had been riding over our country for a long time, as a result of which our economic programs were framed in such a way that they were mostly influenced by the American economy and international companies. Moreover, our economy was based on our oil income. Our culture also was similarly dominated by the imperialists.

We do not claim to be a model Islamic society, but we are advancing toward it. Nevertheless, there are faces and popular movements that could be raised as examples in the world, and we have had good success in this regard. However, that which Islam wants of us has not yet been fully completed. We want greater efforts to be made in the field of economics so that we do not remain dependent on others. With regard to consumption, we are not a model for others and this must change. There is still a danger of a return to luxuries and easy life. If we deal with this decisively, we will close the doors through which the United States could influence our society. It is in this respect that we have had only partial success.

[Correspondent] Your first point, in fact, stems from the nature and ideological tide of the revolution. However, concerning the second point, the struggle against imperialism in the economic and social fields, they have not matched the high ideals of the revolution, although they have been within the sphere of operations and responsibility of the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Musavi] Ideology has not only been in the form of beliefs, but also has taken practical shape through the movement of combatants and the nation. If the slogans we chant could be propogated throughout the world without the presence of the people, they would not have been so successful in practice. All of these things are related to the love for Islam, the Koran, and human values. If we did not have models and distinguished men in our society, ideology alone could not have had a great effect in the world. There has been much talk during the past 150 years concerning effective Islamic beliefs. That which this revolution has sown throughout the world and which has brought about change is the same as that which you see on the faces of ordinary people in the streets and on the faces of young men at the battlefronts.

[Correspondent] There is no doubt that our campaign against imperialism is in fact an inclination of two totally different and contradictory systems toward each other. However, this campaign should be in the economic field. Therefore, we should pay more attention to this field because if we cannot succeed there, the beginning we have achieved will not grow any stronger.

[Musavi] We are always combating that which appears to be unhelpful to our systems. I do not believe we should surrender under such circumstances. However, there are several events which affect this course of action and we must look into them. I agree that foreign powers want to take advantage of our shortcomings and capitalize on the economic and cultural relations we inherited from the former regime — for example, the foreign radios campaign to revive Western music and "teenagerism" free of any moral bindings. Those connected with the former regime and the values reigning in those days try to make the best of the opportunity and take advantage of these foreign radio broadcasts.

As for economic problems, let me show you the work of a Western research institute. As a matter of principle, in their research foreign powers try to acknowledge the effective role played by people in the interest of the revolution and their economic efforts. On this basis they analyse the risks one may undergo investing capital in Iran. They also discuss whether or not more research is needed in the country's foreign trade and also whether the country is heading toward free trade or monopolistic policies. They then deal with individuals on the basis of their analyses and naturally speak highly of a person who opens the country's trade doors to them. Actually their conclusions are correct and if we do not perform well in this field, we would have to face difficulties.

In Article 44 of the Constitution, a limit is placed on foreign trade, but they also have to face the danger of experts who have done studies and who have had the experience of the past 150 years. In my opinion, if this article were drafted based on necessity, this necessity would continue as long as we are engaged in combat with the world oppressors. It is therefore necessary to be in full control of the foreign trade policy. However, we have also had great success during the course of the revolution. For example, the then High Council of Economics forecast in January-February 1978 that to run the country efficiently they would need foreign exchange of $40 billion, while income from non-oil exports was estimated at $4 billion. In other words, the government had to meet this deficit of $36 billion through the sale of oil. With this policy the country would have suffered the fate of Brazil, Argentine and.... in other words, the country would have been swallowed by the United States.

After the revolution we changed the system of estimating foreign exchange requirements. In the past system they estimated the oil income at $36 or $24 billion in normal conditions and suffered greatly if conditions were not stable. But despite pressures and hardships, like the war, we have been able to run the country with $15 billion; this indicates that we have made changes in past policies. This also shows that with the changed policy we will not be harmed, and our dependence on the global economic policies has decreased. At present we are dealing with the conspiracy of lowering the oil price. But many countries announced that if the

prices remain low governments may fall . We do not believe that any price change will have the slightest effect on the stability of our system, in our determination to continue the war until victory, or in continuing to expand the revolution. Moreover, we do not see any fear in our government or in the Majlis. This is due to our gradual self-reliance. However, our relationship to these policies and global fluctuations have not totally ended and we still have a long way to go to reach economic independence. Similarly, our industry also is greatly dependent, but the nucleus of autarky in various industries has been set up and research work and manufacturing of accessories has been accepted as a tradition in the factories. Moreover, there no longer are expectations of large amounts of foreign exchange and import of all industrial tools. Now we support providing for the industrial infrastucture and reliance on local raw material. However we still have difficulties. Other problems involve consumption in our society. The consumption pattern has not yet been molded on the basis of the national income and the foreign exchange income. We see consumption growing in all areas of our lives and even in industrial planning. This offers hope and an opportunity to the West and the big powers. For example, the consumption of cloth at 18 meters per person equals about 19 million meters and only 600 to 700 million meters is produced locally. If we change the consumption pattern to 15 meters, we may not need to import 200 to 300 million meters of cloth. [figures as published] In other words, if every family economizes in their use of cloth, then the need to import cloth will cease. Similarly, if the housing pattern is changed and we change the infrastucture of housing, keeping in mind the shortage in construction material, it is certain that housing facilities will be available to comparatively more persons and our dependence will also lessen. The pattern of consumption has not undergone any change in our system so far. This is because there is no strong move to do so in the government. I believe that the system that encourages consumption has been knowingly or unknowingly kept up and I regret to say that sometimes this system is defended by some. In practice, if the system of consumption is not changed and no propaganda is done to change the present situation, the steps taken by the government in this respect will be challenged. For example, if the consumption of 900 million meters of cloth is reduced to 600 million meters — of course, we have no such plan in mind — it will effect various factors in the distribution and production system, even the cloth patterns. I feel that the mass media can play a great role in changing the consumption pattern, because the consumption pattern also opens doors for inviting imperialistic influence. This door should be closed.

[Correspondent] Cultural problems and other difficulties regarding consumption and the need to change the pattern of comsumption in society — do you think that these matters can only be resolved through press propaganda? Since the victory of the revolution 7 years have passed but we have not been able to achieve any fixed position regarding our major problems or our economic policies and their infrastucture. For example, we still do not know whether we should plan our economic policies on the basis of the three sectors — the public, the cooperatives, and the private — as stated in our Constitution, or on the basis of what some people believe, which is that our economic policies be framed on the basis of the work of the private sector. Keeping these factors in mind, how can there be a change in the consumption patter?

[Musavi] What is specified in the Constitution is that there should be no rivalary between these three sectors. When we are able to place these three sectors alongside each other in a perfect way, our difficulty will be resolved. Now there is a belief that if the government leans toward the private sector, it is said that the public sector has become weak, and if a step is taken toward the public sector, they say that the private sector has become weak. No one looks at this problem in such a way that they might see that these two sectors are not rivals. On the other hand, the legal vacuum regarding distribution, foreign trade, land, and income tax creates difficulties. Last year the Majlis passed a law on income tax. The law specified that in the event of nonpayment of income tax by those liable to pay it, some restrictions should be placed on them. But all our problems do not stem from this subject. I think we should constantly be prepared to condemn Westernization among the people and in the Third World countries. This is not a disease which can be uprooted in one move. Prior to the revolution, we saw that the discussion on the return to the Islamic identity had raised a hue and cry. There is no reason that today we should not deal with this problem using all means at our disposal. It is regrettable that at present no serious action is being taken in this respect, and it looks as if the discussion on this question has ended and there is no longer any danger of Westernization; this disease may have retreated inside its shell. In other countries this disease has taken serious form. Therefore, in view of our experiences, we should constantly be expressing our views on this matter and also should revive the discussion. Guests and scholars who visit Iran look for texts on this subject so that they may translate them into their own language and take them back to their own country to bring changes among their people. Unfortunately, recently we have done nothing regarding this that could be of use to them. Of course the imam's speeches in this respect make up for several lapses. However it is necessary for the universities and seminaries to deal with this subject and to think of ways to combat Westernization.

[Correspondent] You have referred to the question of Westernization. What model should be followed which is not influenced by Western culture, but is influenced by the rich Islamic culture, and which also may deal with the peculiar problems of the Third World countries? For example, regarding industrial and economic expansion, members of your government take South Korea or Japan as their models, forgetting that the progress Japan has made has been due to complete recognition and acceptance of Western culture. Therefore, we see that the programs being carried out in the present circumstances do not deal with the peculiar difficulties of the oppressed countries and the culture ruling them. How could we explain the weakness we have in this respect, especially when it is we who have adopted this path?

[Musavi] In mentioning the model you mean in regards to economic questions, then the brother who visits those countries may have some particular subject in mind. I do not think that our brother visits South Korea to make it a model for us. Our government policy will in no way accept Japan, South Korea, or any other such country as its model. With our experiments and policies of trial and error, we try to become a model for others. We are capable of this in view of our intellectual and creative qualities. At present there is no country in the world that could serve as a model for our economic polices. There is, however, a

matter of principle. For example, let us look at the industrial field. Industry can be strengthened if first the economic field is put on the right track. At present the government is engaged in strengthening its economic policies. This could be done in several ways. At present the Ministry of Jihad and the Ministry of Agriculture are engaged in various programs to help the regime in its economic policies. Some of the programs they follow are: Strengthening the mother industry, finding the correct relationship between the mother industry and the consumer industry, making more use of domestic resources, expanding the gas and petrochemical industry, and trying to raise agricultural output. In all these activities it is evident that the government is not following any economic policies of the countries you mentioned , because we consider all those countries dependent. If the United States for a moment withdraws its favor from them, I think they would not be able to stand on their feet for more than a day or 2.

We believe, God willing, that our country will move toward a situation that if the whole world imposes economic sanctions against it, it will, through its domestic resources and capabilities, stand firm on its feet.

But in the field of culture, I think we have a program and the people are moving according to this program. The system governing this program is surely against Western or Eastern cultures. However, this program, and this framework which is large and fate-determining, should not cause us to ignore the microbes which have found their way into our society. These microbes may have been left for us by the former regime or they might have found their way into our country from abroad. We should always act as a healthy man would. He will investigate the infection within his body. If he does not attend to this disease quickly, he will be harmed by it. We should also act like this. If we see a trend toward luxuries, easy living, and carelessness in our society, then we should deal with it as if we are dealing with a deadly disease. Although at present we have nothing to fear at our Al-Faw front, if we do not look into the above diseases now and remedy them, after a lapse of about 10 years they may bring the revolution to a halt. Therefore, we must operate upon such diseases and remove them from our body. This fact should be kept in view by intellectuals, clergy, and the mass media, and in no case should there be any complacency in this respect. All that the government can do in this respect is to conduct propaganda. The government requests of its members that they condemn luxurious living in their talk, speeches, and propaganda. However, I think that this rests more in the hands of elements outside the government and in a free society. In my view this campaign should first be started by the clergy, newspapers, and the mass media because they can play a very sensitive role in this field.

[Correspondent] Some of the policies of the government are working toward stabilizing the past system of consumption. In fact we see that this is a remnant of the past. This may possibly be due to a lack of power to deal decisively in this respect and to ignorance about the long-range policies of the government in this field. Of course, we can see unavoidable factors in this connection and we accept them, but it seems that of the two policies — bad and worse — we prefer the bad one, for example: TV propaganda, the policy of selling gold coins, the selling of Nissan patrol cars, and various other facilities which have become essential under the present circumstances. But such decisions are only whitewash. Take for example the gold pieces which are sold to reimburse the rial currency of the government; we should investigate the real reason for the deficiency in rial reserves and should work to remove the cause. Another problem is the matter of revolution in our administrative machinery, about which discussions were held at the start of the revolution. Similarly, we must look into the question of the close relations linking production, imports, distribution, and consumption. It is apparent that we cannot bring about a change in the consumption sector without bringing about major changes in all other sectors. In fact, we should follow the consumption pattern of the imam. We recollect that during the start of the imposition of economic sanctions against our country the imam raised the question of fasting and said: We are the offsprings of "Ashura" [the 10th day of Moharram, the day of the martyrdom of imam hoseyn] and the month of fasting. The question now is that the Islamic consumption pattern should be the same as that followed by our youth at the battlefronts. However, the policies which we now see are primarily meant for the urban population of the middle class. I believe that we need a policy for the whole society which excludes no class.

[Musavi], I accept this. This problem can be divided into two parts. One part relates to the executive policies of the government which result in lawmaking, and the other part relates to the social aspect of the question, in other words to the same deep cultural factors which, as you said, spring from the revolution, battlefronts, and Al-Faw. This is a thing which we should propagate through our speeches, talks, and the mass media. I believe that we do not invest much in this regard. Take for example propaganda through television. At times we speak of the battlefronts, the movement of combatants, our economic system, and of our warning to the general public against unnecessary consumption. On the other hand, the Voice and Vision in its advertisements encourages consumption simply because it needs some income. It also advertises some items of consumption of which we do not approve. It was decided that we should write to Mr Hashemi [managing director of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting] in this connection. I hope this criticism does not hurt the feelings of the brothers working in the Voice and Vision who I am sure go to great pains in broadcasting their programs. I hope they will not take it seriously and deprive us of their good programs. They should work out a good consumption pattern for themselves and should do with the appropriation which the government fixes for them; in other words, they should operate within the government allotment.

I recall martyr Raja'i [Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i] who was a model whenever the question of shortages arose. I will relate a story for the benefit of my brothers. Once a discussion was held in the Supreme Defense Council on a certain military operation. The brothers from the Army and the Guards Corps who took part in this discussion insisted that a certain operation must take place. I think this discussion took place prior to the Bostan operation. This debate was carried out in two sessions. In the first session, he said that the commanders who had to attend the second meeting must bring a war plan. When the commanders arrived for the second meeting, one of them submitted an operations plan with which he was very happy and felt it was a very good plan. When he concluded the presentation of his plan, he said: Of course, we need some military hardware for this operation. He

then gave a list of the items needed for the operation which included hundreds of tanks, artillery guns, aircraft and ..... Mr Raja'i then said: The commanders are excused, and when they come next they should submit a plan knowing full well that we will no supply them with tanks, guns ..... and they should submit an operations plan which can be implemented with material presently at our disposal. They also should ensure that the operation succeeds. Our brothers came to the next meeting and I think the Bostan operation which was discussed. It was after that meeting that the miracles of hiding in sand and rising behind the enemy and similar other initiatives were seen.

In fact our present position is similar. In other words, the Voice and Vision, and in principle all other organizations, should make do with what we have in our possession and produce the best results.

With regard to the budget bill, let me say that we have inherited a system of administration which is not easy to alter. It is not an easy task to break up a system that has to deal with a manpower of 1.5 million people, with the average family size being 5 members [figures as published]. The drafting of the budget bill, as was seen in the Majlis debates, has been done with utmost parsimony. The Majlis itself has added 13 billion tomans [one toman equals 10 rials] in various sectors and in this connection we do not see eye to eye with them because we believe that to find this income would be a difficult task. In any case, whatever the Majlis decides the government will have to abide by. That which the government has submitted in its budget bill constitutes the real needs of the country and we do not think there is anything in it which may be contrary to the aspirations of the Islamic revolution. We firmly believe that whatever has been submitted by the government in the budget bill is based on the necessities of the war and the revolution and for tasks connected with the advancement of the revolution.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister: Our last question concerns political forces. At present, various political forces exist in the form of individuals or groups in society. What is your evaluation of these political forces? What are the possibilities for their participation in various dimensions in the country?

[Musavi] In my opinion every noninterfering political force which accepts the present system of government should be allowed to participate and they should be utilized. However, we should not take the risk of making use of this force at the price of sacrificing the framework of ideology and the Hezbollahi force which is dominant in the country at present. The stability of the Hezbollahi forces should be allowed to remain because it has been acquired at the cost of a great many sacrifices. Martyr Beheshti is one of them. Raja'i and Bahonar are also in the same martyr group. This must remain as it is. However, all forces which can serve the country in any possible way should be welcomed with open arms and used wherever needed. The policy of the government is the same. Whenever we hold talks with such forces during Cabinet meetings, we always make room for their views while safeguarding the original framework. Your question may have another meaning also. I think that in religious matters our society should respect the views of others who may differ. We encourage everyone to tolerate the opinions of each other and to work together. The mission and message of the revolution and the dangers threatening it requires that all the forces join hands and work together.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique No 2427

LD011616 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 1, IRNA — Naval forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran intercepted a cargo ship suspected of carrying goods for the Iraqi regime in the Strait of Hormuz at 0432 a.m. (0102 hours GMT) Tuesday, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Communique Number 2427 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said that the naval forces guided the ship to a southern port for thorough inspection.

In the southern fronts, the communique added, the Islamic forces of Iran strengthened their positions and opened fire on motor pools and tank emplacements of Iraqi forces Monday, inflicting considerable casualties and damages on the enemy.

Iranian Muslim combatants exchanged heavy artillery fire with Iraqi forces in the Majnun Island and captured three Iraqi soldiers after clashing with an ambush floating unit of the enemy forces, said the communique.

It said that Iranian forces checked reconnaissance flight of Iraqi helicopters an Al-Faw region and halted enemy engineering operations elsewhere in Nahr Anbar.

Industrial centers and oil installation of Iraqi townships of Banmil and Naft Khaneh suffered major damages when hit by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim forces, according to the communique.

In areas overlooking Sumar, Iranian artillery fire forced an Iraqi patrol unit to flee while sustaining casualties and damages, said the communique, adding that Islamic forces also disturbed or halted enemy engineering operations in Helaleh and Kani Sheykh.

In the northwestern fronts, it said, the Islamic forces of Iran successfully carried out 40 combat-patrol and reconnaissance missions in suspicious areas and sensitive parts of Iraqi forces.

They also shelled enemy positions killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers and demolishing several gun emplacements of theirs.

The artillery fire of Iranian muslim troops also checked movements and transportation of Iraqi convoys and command vehicles in Sayyid Sadiq, Panjwin, Bani Banuk, and Shanadari, according to the communique.

Mdanwhile, the Iraqi long-range artillery fire continued pounding the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, Monday damaging some locations in the city.

'Scheme' Against Gulf Hatched With Libya, Syria

GF011840 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The Voice of the Liberation of Iran correspondent in Tehran reports that in the days following the Nowruz holidays, a fresh scheme was hatched to establish an Islamic peoples' union [ettehad-e jamahir-e eslami] with the participation of representatives of the Syrian, Iranian, and Libyan regimes. The draft of this plan was sent by the regime's Foreign Ministry to Jamaran for final ratification. According to this plan, which in essence has been prepared against the Persian Gulf shaykhdoms, each of these three regimes aim at establishing a form of theological imperialism and will jointly endeavor to consolidate it and spread it in certain continents.

According to this troika, consisting of Syria, Libya, and Iran, all kinds of arsonist activities, assassinations, assaults, and aggression have been declared legitimate and compulsory by giving them an Islamic license and justification. According to this report, the main targets of this joint venture by Tehran, Tripoli, and Damascus include some countries in Africa, Asia, the Far East, the Middle East, and in particular, the Persian Gulf.

Val-Fajr-9 Operations in Kurdistan Reportedly 'Fail'

GF011550 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Reports from informed sources in Tehran indicate that the Islamic Republic's "Val-Fajr-9" operations in Kurdistan have failed. Analysts say the communiques issued by the Islamic Republic confirm this fact.

Tehran official military communiques on the operations in Kurdistan are now limited to reports of nighttime hit-and-run missions from inside the country into Iraqi territory and then returning to base. At the start of the "Val-Fajr-9" operations the Islamic Republic had announced that it had occupied hundreds of kilometers of land in Iraqi Kurdistan.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 APRIL 1986

TWA Explosion

The "Arab Revolutioary cells-Al-Qassam cell" claimed responsibility for the 2 April explosion on a TWA airliner that killed four passengers and injured nine others, Radio Monte Carlo reported. In a statement distributed to news agencies in Beirut, the organization viewed the explosion as retaliation for U.S. attempts to "subjugate" the Arab masses, the latest of which was the "aggression" against Libya, adding that this operation marks the beginning of a revolutionary movement aimed at hitting U.S. interests everywhere. The group said it is inspired by the aims and example of Shaykh 'Izz al-Din Qassam, a Palestinian leader during the British Mandate period.

In Libya, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio mentioned the explosion in a brief report 3 April. Tehran radio reported Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's denial to UPI of any Libyan involvement in the explosion and his advice to President Reagan "to give up such pretexts for launching an attack on Libya."

Iran-Iraq War

Reporting further on Iran's "abortive and frustrated attempt" to approach Iraqi positions in the north, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio updated "confirmed" Iranian losses to 992 killed. The communique also said Iraqi planes raided another "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast.

On the Iranian side, Tehran radio reported that Iranian troops succeeded in "annihilating" over 150 Iraqis in operations against Iraqi commandos north of Al-Faw. Gulf shipping sources cited by the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* disclosed that an Iranian aircraft damaged a Qatari oil tanker in a missile attack northeast of Qatar 31 March.

Lebanon

An Amal Movement statement broadcast by Beirut radio blamed the Palestinians for renewed fighting in the Sabra-Shatila area 2 April, stating that Palestinian gunmen violated cease-fire agreements and made "futile" attempts to advance. Syrian forces have seized Palestinian artillery emplacements overlooking Beirut to ensure they will not be used to shell Amal positions in the capital, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

An Amal official told the British ambassador that Amal is making every effort to secure the release of two kidnapped British teachers, Beirut radio noted.

USSR, Syria, and the PLO

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department, Damascus radio reported.

DRA-Pakistan

Pakistani's Foreign Ministry lodged a protest with the DRA charge d'affaires over a DRA artillery attack on Mohmand Agency that killed two people 30 March, Karachi radio reported. In Kabul, the DRA Foreign Ministry likewise protested to the Pakistani charge d'affaires over shelling of DRA border areas by Pakistani troops and Afghan rebels 11-23 March that killed or wounded over 100 people, Kabul radio reported. Pakistan's allegations that the DRA Armed Forces violated its border areas 22-27 march were dismissed as "fabrications," the report added.

In a speech to the 17th PDPA Central Committee Plenum 27 March, broadcast by Kabul radio 30 March, DRA President Babrak Karmal called for "more serious coordination" among the country's military, state security, militia, and paramilitary units, charging that they have all stopped obeying "various organs" and are acting "without accord."

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Karmal Addresses PDPA Plenum 27 Mar

LD021455 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 30 Mar 86

["Excerpts" of speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to 17th PDPA Central Committee plenum in Kabul on 27 March 1986 — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Comrades, as you know, the 27th CPSU Congress was held in Moscow 25 February to 6 March. In the history of human civilization there are events which mark the beginning of a new period. The 27th CPSU Congress is among such events, and was transformed into an outstanding and glittering show of unity and internationalist solidarity by the progressive forces and revolutionaries of the world.

The people of Afghanistan and all our party members have followed the work of the congress with great interest, sincerely welcomed the splendid report by Mikhail Gorbachev, and received his words about our country close to their hearts. The political report states that the counterrevolutionaries and imperialism have turned Afghanistan into a bloody wound. The USSR supports this country's efforts toward defending its sovereignty. The USSR wants to bring home in the very near future the Soviet military contingents that are in the country at the request of DRA Government. Agreement has been reached with the Afghan side concerning the phased withdrawal immediately after a political solution is attained which could bring about a halt to armed intervention from abroad in the internal affairs of the DRA and reliably guarantee its nonrecurrance.

This principled stand of the CPSU should be brought to the attention of all party members and all toilers. Only a loyal, reliable friend and brother is capable of displaying such attention concerning our country. The Soviet Union has been our number one friend, a sincere, and selfless friend, and the brother of our people for more than 65 years. On behalf of the people of Afghanistan, we express our gratitude to the toilers in the country of the Soviets at the 27th CPSU Congress for their all-round internationalist assistance by which revolutionary Afghanistan is alive, struggles, and triumphs.

The PDPA, during this present plenum completely and warmly affirms and supports the resolutions and decisions of the historical 27th Congress and wishes great successes in their realization for the fraternal Soviet people, the party of Lenin, the Central Committee, and its general secretary, Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

In fact, all statesmen at the congress, including the Soviets and foreigners, by affirming the political report, affirmed the part concerning our country, too. We thank all of them. We express our heartfelt thanks to the leaders of the Communist Parties of Cuba, the United States, the Communist Party of Pakistan, the fedayeen organization of the people of Iran (majority), and others, who specifically expressed support for the cause of the Afghan people.

During the days of the congress, a great number of our country's establishments and collectives organized internationalist meetings and gatherings. The toilers of the Jangalak plants, the Mazar-e Sharif chemical fertilizer plant, the Jalalabad irrigation collective, the Zekrollah-e Shahid cooperative, students and lecturers of Kabul University and the Polytechnic Institute, and esteemed Hatef [NFF president], Chamkani, and Comrade Anahita Ratebzad, on behalf of their organizations sent messages of congratulations to the congress.

Interesting meetings took place at Afghan-Soviet friendship rooms during the congress. The number of meetings and discussions in this regard recently have considerably increased.

The militant friendship and fraternity week of the Afghan-Soviet military staff was marked with internationalist fervor and enthusiasm. These are the live and outstanding examples of the ever-increasing friendship between the people of the DRA and the USSR, which should be expanded more than ever before in broader dimensions. This is a regular, precise, and permanent matter for patriotic and internationalist training and the permanent principle of our people.

In consideration of party demands, the Politburo decided to publish in Pashto and Dari the Central Committee political report and CPSU plan simultaneously with the work of the congress and other documents from the congress. Let our party members learn ever more about the powerful weapon of the creative scientific revolutionary knowledge, learn to use all enriching experiences and thoughts from the CPSU under the difficult conditions of our country, and implement them in a creative manner in the specific conditions and revolutionary phases for improving the life of the our country's toilers.

A delegation from our party composed of Comrades Karmal, Keshtmand, Ziray, and Najib took part at the 27th Congress at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and in accordance with the resolution of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo. I would like to report to you comrades in the Central Committee the work the delegation accomplished in Moscow. First of all, I want to say that the Soviet people warmly welcomed us, the delegates of our militant party. We experienced this everywhere, at the Kremlin Palace, at military establishments and units, and among the citizens of Moscow. During our 11 days in Moscow, we took part in the militant meeting on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the signing of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Treaty, at the meetings of the men and officers of the famous Taman Division, the toilers of the [name indistinct] Moscow District Party. We had a meeting with the students from the International Leninist School, with Afghan students in Moscow, and with journalists at the Press Center of the 27th Congress. The delegation members gave interviews to the reporters from radio, television, newspapers, and weeklies 18 times. Dozens of meetings were held with the delegations of fraternal parties during the congress and 19 party cooperation protocols were concluded.

Our delegation, on behalf of the Central Committee, distributed at the congress a great quantity of propaganda material and detailed information about the activity of the PDPA, which was warmly welcomed by our friends.

On the eve of the congress opening, our party delegation went to Red Square to take part in the wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of the great Lenin. While there, before this place of inspiration for the world, the thought came to mind that we were laying this wreath of flowers as a mark of gratitude and respect of all generations of Afghans who kept in their hearts for several decades the name of this great man, the friend of the toilers. The name and cause of Lenin unite all toiling men throughout the world. We laid the wreath of flowers in the name of our fathers and forefathers, who left for us the torch of eternal friendship with the country of Lenin. We laid the wreath of flowers at the tomb of Lenin in the name of officers, troops, workers, peasants, artisans, traders, intellectuals, and all patriots of our country on behalf of all party members and the people of the DRA. We laid the wreath of flowers on behalf of you dear comrades, the members of the Central Committee.

At this point, the present plenum appraised the end of 1364 [which ended 20 March]. Intensive and eventful work joined the pages of history this year. Possibly, this year was a year of difficulties; however, at the same time, it was undoubtedly the most fruitful year. The construction of the Armed Forces of the new era continued; their combat power was strengthened and consolidated. This year will be recorded in history as the year of the Loya Jirga and the High Jirga of the Border Tribes, who completely supported our domestic and foreign policies. The country's socioeconomic progress was speeded up. The party Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the government concentrated their efforts on a new approach toward broadening the social bases of the revolutionary order. This approach was put forward within ten theses and then acquired legal power through a Revolutionary Council statement. The 16th plenum of the Central Committee explained the essence of the new approach to the party, defined it, and prescribed practical measures in this regard. The expansion of the composition of the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers, the continuation of democratic elections to local organs, the creation of new social organizations are all specific measures which prove that the party carries out the pledges it made to the people.

National entrepreneurs began more active cooperation with the popular sovereignty. [as heard] During the past 4 months, they have allocated some 200 million afghani for the development of 53 projects and have given 1.7 million afghani to social organizations. The Revolutionary Council and the government express sincere gratitude to all of them and believe that the others too will follow this noble example.

We were able to awaken the feelings of justice and patriotism in the hearts of a great number of Afghans who live abroad. The fact that ever larger numbers of refugees are returning home is a matter of pleasure. Deadlocked talks with Pakistan in Geneva have been eliminated.

The growth of the party ranks continued in the past year. Today the number of full and candidate members of the party is more than 150,000. The primary party organizations have grown considerably. These are some results of our work. If our activity is analyzed objectively with regard to the lessons which the congress gave to all revolutionaries, it becomes clear that we should catch up with the demands of time. In order to find an example, it is not necessary to go very far.

About 4 months ago, we held the 16th PDPA Central committee plenum and approved a resolution of extraordinary importance; all of us voted for that resolution. We now see how its fundamental instructions have been implemented. The complex plan of broadening and consolidating revolutionary rule in connection with the military-political situation in the country has almost been implemented during the past year. Let us see how the completion of the Armed Forces has been fully implemented. The PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Council of Ministers have made very important decisions in this regard and immediately after the plenum, held a consultative meeting. The nation-wide work of recruitment during the past 11 months has been implemented partially and needs more work. It was decided that the military commissar of Qandahar should be relieved due to the failure in his duties. Others too may be relieved.

The number of military staff, sarandoy, state security, regional units, militia, guards, defenders of the revolution, self-defense and civil defense groups outnumbers the bandits. However, in turn, each of these units abandons [the idea of] obeying various organs and acts independently. More serious coordination should be introduced.

All Armed Forces activities should be directed to the task of expanding the people's sovereignty. The Army, in addition to its direct duties in crushing the rebels and maintaining security, is dutybound to render social tasks, as well as organizational and political tasks. It is necessary that the structure of the units and companies be in accord with the character of their tasks. If special units and companies [words indistinct] are needed for the elimination of small bands and the advancement of political work among the people, then let us create them.

Shortcomings and defects exist in the work of the border tribes too. Consultative jirgas are not being held regularly. The enhancement of the level of self-consciousness of the free Pashtun tribes, their demands concerning the observation of their rights and traditions, and strengthening their optimism toward our revolution brings on the wrathful and savage reaction of the Pakistani regime. Islamabad and the imperialist states will make efforts toward the unification of the counterrevolutionary forces with the reactionary part of the Pashtuns. We must specify a new approach and program in work with the free tribes.

In brief, the political-military situation is as follows: Specific victories have been won by our people, but existing serious defects should be removed. The expansion of social bases and the new approach in this regard is a special situation. What lessons could be learned from the work done? This work should take on a mass character and a broad scale, and should be practically expanded and continued from the capital to the cities, districts, subdistricts, and villages. It should be said that resources for broadening the social bases are largely in localities, and in villages, among the masses of peasants. In addition, we absorb people into the leadership, not for show and representation, but for work which brings about the closeness of the government with the people. The policy of the expansion of the social bases is a long term and

strategic policy. We will apply all necessary measures toward the implementation of this policy.

It is necessary that our influence over peasants should be strengthened. The party's work must be improved in this area. The number of the party members among the millions of peasants masses is still small. The base of our enemies — who exploit the low level of the peasants — is in the villages and they fill their ranks there. Party cadres, including the members of the Central Committee, when visiting localities, must go to the villages and through contact with the peasants, work to satisfy their needs. These needs, along with the speedy absorption of peasants into the defense of the revolution, are increasing with every passing day. The state organs must implement the plans made for improving the life of the people, particularly the peasants, in the localities. Every sort of negligence and indifference in this regard must not be overlooked.

All these questions and a number of other matters were discussed at the seminar which was held some time ago by the DRA Council of Ministers. Now the task is to organize the implementation of all decisions and thus exert a positive influence on the major agricultural issue, which is the advancement of land and water reform. We must transfer the center of gravity of all the party's sociopolitical and economic activity to the village, where the majority of people of the country live and work. Effective political work must be undertaken with artisans, intellectuals, teachers, and other societal strata and social groups.

In the work of broadening social bases, the possibilities of compromise should also be utilized as necessary. In order to stop bloodshed, we are prepared to engage in compromise. It has been said correctly that blood should be washed with water and not with blood. Before the plenum, I again read a treatise written by Lenin and again became convinced that a large number of cadres do not percieve the question of compromise correctly. Lenin writes: Negating compromise on principles and completely counting every kind of compromise as not permissable is so childish that it is difficult to even consider serious. [Lenin collective works in Persian, Volume II, Part II, page 429] We do not have the right and must not reject compromise, provided it achieves the major goal: the establishment of nation-wide peace and security. This policy is completely in accord with the dictates and appraisals of the our party's program of action and principled policy. Only powerful parties accept compromise. We do not trade on principles and do not intend to give in. This matter should be clear to our friends as well as our enemies.

This question is completely relevant to the kind of work done by the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan [DYOA], the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan [DWOA], the National Fatherland Front and the trade unions toward the expansion of their social bases. The social organizations, creatively relying on the energy of the masses, should work among the masses by going among them.

Comrades, our party must be a party of revolutionary action. In implementing the new approach, it carries out a progressive role as regards political, social and eceonomic measures. The drafting and outlining of the basic guidelines of the socioeconomic development of the DRA 1986-91 is a very important event in the life of the country. Today Comrade Keshtmand will present a comprehensive report on the basic guidelines to the Central Committee plenum. I would like merely to point out that the implementation of the 5-year plan is the number one task of the party and all the people. We should inform all our people about the great importance of the first 5-year plan since the revolution. We should explain that these plans can be met only through the sincere work of every Afghan, whereever he works and whatever rank he holds.

First of all, I would like to speak about the major task of the 5-year plan. In my opinion the major task of the 5-year plan is the implementation of the planned policy of the PDPA to eliminate the economic and technical backwardness of the country; the enhancement of the level of material and cultural standards of the people based on the reconstruction of idle establishments and the creation of new production institutions. Our aim is to speed up growth in all sectors and areas of the national economy, primarily the state and cooperative sectors as the basis of general state ownership, and to involve all economic forms in trade, monetary relations and the general national market. In the course of the 5 years the volume of national revenue will increase by 25 percent, the production of industrial goods by 38 percent and agricultural products by 14 to 16 percent. Special attention will be paid to agriculture and irrigation. Investments in these areas will increase 1.8 times. In this area, too, the all-round assistance of the friendly countries, first and foremost the Soviet Union, will provide two-thirds of foreign assistance, thus playing a most important role. Even simple people can compare what the April Revolution offers the people and what the regime of Ziaul Haq in Pakistan proposes. Their plans are the plans of aggression and the export of counterrevolution, and our plans are the plans of peace and initiatives.

Now we look at a third question: party and political work. Our specific situation and our specific historical path show that problems can only be solved politically. Political methods and means ought to have a fundamental position and progressive role in work with the masses. It is this that highlights most the acute necessity of the reconstruction of party and political work. The most important thing in this reconstruction must be turning words into action, cutting red tape and reaching the people, putting a halt to monotonous meetings, and enaging in constructive work in localities. Let the number of decisions and resolutions be small, and all of them should be implemented in practice. Instead of words and hollow promises, the tasks and specific ways for their implementation should be assessed. And, finally, strong control from top to bottom inclusively should be maintained.

The main thrust of reconstruction consists in work, specifically, the enhancement of the level of demands and the attainment of results in the work of every member of the party and the party as a whole. The policy of all-round enhancement of the role and responsibility of the provincial party committees should be continued and these committees should be transformed into true centers of leadership. Party committees are the organizers of all political life in the provinces. They are responsible for all questions. Local organs should help them and take into account their opinions and proposals. Central Committee departments should

profoundly analyze and assess the work of the party committees and investigate responsible officials.

I would like to warn officials of ministries and departments who go to localities to solve the problems related to their departments but who do not contact the party committees. Growing bureaucratism in the party and state apparatus severely prevents our growth and development. Much of the staff is tied up in red tape instead of organizational work. A great amount of red tape extends to the provincial party committees. Bureaucratism in the ministries and departments delays the solution of urgent questions for long periods.

In the struggle against irresponsibility and indifference the role of criticism and self-criticism should be enhanced. While we are in favor of constructive criticism and reject rigid and unprincipled criticism, this matter is of principled importance as to what sort of a person advances criticism. An unethical and selfish person does not have the right to teach others ethics and self-sacrifice.

Every organization and every party member and all responsible officials and leaders must be under the control and criticism of the party. If we value and want to help each other, then we must attach the necessary value to criticism. However, criticism should not be based on personal, sectoral or friendship interests.

The Politburo has discussed many times the necessity of strengthening the struggle against embezzlement, to which unfortunately, a number of officials are prone. In accordance with an instruction issued by the Politburo, the Special Revolutionary Prosecution Office is investigating this matter. We know people who get rich through the war and through the tears and blood and mourning of the people. The time will come when we expose the dark names of these persons. However, it is still time for them to stop and to no longer consider the purse of the state as their personal purse. No matter how long embezzlement and bribery continue, they eventually come to an end, but such an end is very traumatic and no one, relying on influential friends nor past services, will help. I would like to repeat once again that such persons should think again before it is too late.

The other question is that of the simple and unostentatious life of the party leadership. The revolutionary life is a simple life. However, some try to own luxury cars at the expense of the state and to use these state cars for their families and children. The appetites of some people in organizing and decorating their office and when undertaking working trips to the provinces have no end. At this very moment the party Control Commission is engaged in studying the facts of such abuses.

Now a few words about the moral area and political work: There exist many urgent tasks in this area. At a time when very profound and considerable processes are going on in the country, when most questions should be reconsidered and a full assessment should be made of the new facts, the Central Committee has the right to ask for assistance from the ulema, historians, philosophers and economists. Unfortunately, however, a number of scholars in social sciences who work at the Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Social Sciences and higher education establishments are remote from the specific and important questions of life. To put this in a serious way, we are in need of practical sciences and not hollow words. Practical work among the masses was generalized in the work of the ideological seminar. That is a good thing. However, the seminar showed that thoughts and theoretical work as a whole, and the theoretical work of questions related to the national democratic revolution, in particular, are lagging behind. A mostly classless position, influenced by situations and conditions, is founc in scientific publications and writings. We, of course, have no state censor. However, all questions of publicity and printing of writings are guided by responsible officials, i.e. there are responsible official who should be investigated. I believe the time for investigation has arrived.

The ideological departments and organizations must bring under daily control the questions related to illiteracy, the organization of teaching in school, the strengthening and intensification of training work at schools and higher education institutions. The teaching of the DYOA, the DWOA, the party and trade unions and young pupils and students should be strengthened this year; this is a reliable and strategic way to expand social bases. Revolution and youth comprise a question which remains before the party as a whole. It is necessary that ideological, patriotic and party training and paying paternal attention to youth should be strengthened. One of the characteristics of our party is its ability to learn, to learn from friends and from life and history. The experience of the USSR is a great teacher. This experience should be learned in an indefatigable manner and creatively utilized without a dogmatic and mechanical approach. Let everyone critically assess his work and approach. It should be remembered that the party leadership is not only responsible for what is good, but for all that is bad in the country, too.

Another assessment: problems grow quicker than their solutions. Our defense and economic capability has not been completely fulfilled. The performance of the agrarian and water reform; the establishment, consolidation and expansion of state power; the defense of borders; the normalization of the situation in the country should be speeded up. I would like to say frankly that some of our leaders and officials in the capital and the provinces do not respond to matters entrusted to them using their wisdom, their conscience and their party membership card. In the meantime they are very interested in their personal rule and power and in their workrooms. They have forgotten their responsibilities.

The Politburo will adopt extra measures to spread openness in the work of the leadership cadres of the central leadership organs. But whenever these cases are discussed, some get angry and suggest that little should be said about shortcomings and defects. There could be only one answer in this regard, and that is that everything should be stated as it is and the truth should be revealed to the party and people. We need the truth always and under every situation and condition. Lenin said that the bitterest truth is 100 times better than every sort of sweet lie. We should prepare for work in order to compensate for what we have lost. Changes cannot be implemented with half-hearted measures. If one builds a home, then its ceiling and roof should also be constructed, i.e. the work should be completed. We should give a big boost to our revolution. This boost does not mean leaping ahead of phases and unnecessary haste, but old and new questions should be solved with more speed. Every member of the party, every party supporter and every patriot should work with further

speed. Everyone should reject indifference, inactivity and laziness. The homeland and the people are bleeding; the enemy is inflicting brutality, and in these difficult conditions and time of war and revolution there also exist some leaders who are working half-heartedly with little energy within their fixed work times, who do not donate even a minute of their free time. They go on long vocations and engage in fruitless, and even harmful discussion. What kind of revolutionaries are they?

Dear comrades, our beloved country has begun the year 1365 [year beginning 21 March 1986]. What must be done during this year when the problems and difficulties and great tasks will not be fewer than previous years? The new year should be a decisive year for realizing the new approach in connection with expanding the social bases of the revolutionary order. We are looking forward to the time when the cessation of bloodshed and the establishment of peace and security in our persecuted land come closer. In order to do this, we are dutybound to enlarge the armed forces to the planned level, further protect the borders so the armed forces can direct their efforts to the struggle against banditry inside the country, and maintain peaceful conditions and security for Afghans. These tasks are both military and political. Their execution is our major patriotic and internationalist duty.

In the sphere of domestic policy: Elections to local organs of state power and administration should be completed before the end of the year. The draft DRA Constitution should also be ready by that time so that after a general referendum in a manner to be set up, it should be approved.

In the socioeconomic sphere: The first year of the first 5-year plan after the revolution has begun. It is the duty of party and state to concentrate all their efforts on its implementing and all the toilers should show that they can sincerely work for themselves, for the state, and all people of Afghanistan.

In the moral sphere: The major task of unity and unification of the people, publicizing ideas of unity, revolutionary and patriotic training and intensification of attention to the culture of all people residing in Afghanistan lies before us.

In the party and political sphere: A fundamental improvement in the forms and methods of the work of party and social organizations, and the consolidation of party unity from top to bottom as a major principle of work, is the center of our attention.

In the sphere of foreign policy: All forces should draw their attention to the political solution of the situation regarding Afghanistan. In pursuance of its peace-loving policy, the DRA has made every necessary effort to find a political solution through talks on the situation around Afghanistan. As a result of DRA initiatives and in particular, the well-known statements of 14 May 1980 and August 1981, the way for beginning talks between the DRA and Pakistan opened. From the beginning of the process of the negotiations in Geneva, by displaying goodwill and a realistic political will, the DRA has taken part in the talks and has in practice helped to advance the process. But unfortunately, as a result of Pakistan's negative stand -- which under pressure from U.S. imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction, avoids direct and constructive talks under various pretexts, notwithstanding relatively important progress -- the process of the negotiation is advancing slowly.

We should work indefatigably with all our energy and power in all spheres of the party, social and state life and in international affairs. Only in those circumstances will the slogan "The revolution is continuing" have true power.

Protest Conveyed to Pakistan on Border Aggression
LD021725 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The Pakistan Embassy charge d' affaires was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1430 today. The following points were conveyed to him by the director of the [words indistinct] Political Department:

According to reports by the relevant DRA authorities, despite the repeated protests by the DRA Government, the Pakistani military authorities continue aggression and incursion into DRA territory. From 11-23 March, Afghan counterrevolutionaries, including artillery units and companies of the Pakistan armed forces, continuously shelled the DRA border regions with reactive [as heard] missiles and heavy artillery at the Chamkani, (Dara Kheyl), (Mara Kheyl) and (Bangash) areas in Paktia Province. The warheads used in these attacks are of a type used only by the Pakistani ground forces. As a result of these savage attacks more than 100 local inhabitants have been martyred and wounded, 50 houses and 4 mosques have been destroyed, and a large number of livestock killed.

The DRA Government strongly condemns this aggression by the Pakistani military forces and lodges a strong protest with the Pakistani Government. It demands from the Pakistan military authorities to end such inhuman actions, which aggravate the border situation. The responsibility for the consequences of this aggression rests with the Pakistani authorities.

Also, in order to conceal its open aggression against the DRA, the Pakistan military authorities claimed that the DRA armed forces violated the (Batasangar), (Barji) and Kharlachi regions and Parachinar on 22 March; the Nawagi area, (Bajawar) Agency on 24 March; another region close to Chaman city on 25 March; the Nawagi area, (Bajawar) Agency again on 26 and 27 March; and the (Bahadar Kala), Mohmand Agency, and (Chahji) area, (Bajawar) Agency on 24 March. After precise investigation, the DRA Government considers these claims to be far from the truth and resolutely rejects them. It demands that the Pakistani authorities stop such fabrications.

Commentator on Gorbachev Proposal on Nuclear Testing
LD030654 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 03 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 1, BAKHTAR — A political commentator of BAKHTAR writes: The recent television speech made by Mikhail Gorbacheov, general secreatry of the Central Committee of the CPSU, over the concern of the Soviet people and that of the peace forces of the world on the continuation of nuclear

tests by Washington administration drew the serious attention of the people of the world.

The Soviet Union unilaterally announced the moratorium on nuclear tests eight months ago and asked Reagan's administration to follow suit in order to achieve disarmament.

The world people are witness to the fact that Washington administration not only did not give a positive response to the recent proposals of the Soviet Union on disarmament till the year 2000 but on the contrary continued its nuclear tests. Thus, it becomes clear that the White House war mongers and their NATO allies do not want peace to be maintained in the world and play a military game with the destiny of human kind.

The Soviet leader once again reiterated that the only way to achieve world disarmament is to stop nuclear tests.

Disregarding the call of the progressive, political and religious forces for ending nuclear tests, Reagan administration carried out another underground nuclear tests and will be repeating the same in the future.

The people of Afghanistan strongly condemn the nuclear tests carried out by Washington administration and ask the U.S. Administration to show good will to the destiny of mankind.

Lok Sabha Discusses Pakistan, Punjab Issues

Pakistan Training 'Terrorists'

BK021250 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The minister for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, told the Lok Sabha today that between 20 and 30 terrorists caught during the past 6 months had clear links with Pakistan. The External Affairs Ministry has been asked to take up this matter strongly with that country. The Home Ministry has given details of the camps in Pakistan, the training schedule and the type of training being imparted there. He said we regard this as a hostile act on the part of Pakistan.

The minister said various plans have been drawn up to make the state police more effective. The Punjab government has come up with [station off the air for few seconds]. The Punjab government has also been told about the position of the terrorists in most of the gurdwaras [Sikh temples] as well as their linkages.

Mr Nehru said it is being brought to the notice of the chief minister that various ragis [minstrels] are trying to fan communal feelings in villages creating problems. The chief minister has also been apprised about three or four political organizations which are indulging in antinational activities in the state. He said Mr Barnala has been requested to be extremly careful about hasty release of detenues. It has been suggested to him that the government should deal with hardened criminals under the National Security Act and the Anti-Terrorists Act.

State Security Minister, Gandhi on Punjab

BK021623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Mr Arun Nehru gave details of the assistance and information being provided by the Center to the Punjab government to help them put down terrorism. He said the Barnala government appears to be on the right track. He described the latest results of the drive against terrorism as encouraging. During the past 3 days, four terrorists were shot, three were arrested, and reasonably large quantity of arms was recovered. In addition, 110 million rupees worth of heroin was seized on the border.

The minister said various plans are being drawn up to make the state police more effective. The Punjab government has come up with a shopping list for weapons and equipment and the Center will try to help them to the extent it can.

Speaking about the measures taken to prevent infiltration from across the western border, he said during the past 2½ months 2,200 people have been apprehended. Two thousand and fifty have been pushed back and 150 handed over to the Punjab police. In the last 6 weeks 43 people were killed by the security forces.

Speaking briefly in the debate, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi reiterated that the government is committed to implementing the Punjab accord in letter and spirit. We have not defaulted even a bit, he asserted. He said the accord cannot be implmented by bits, it has to be done as a whole. The prime minister also clarified that the chief minister of Haryana was consulted on the accord throughout.

The speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, warned against the injection of communal feelings and said we should take a lesson from the holocaust during [India-Pakistan] partition. He asked the government to take stringent measures to ensure that religious platforms are used only for preaching religion and peace.

The debate sponsored by Shobaradheshwar Rao, Telpugu Desam, and Mr K.K. Tiwari, Congress-I, highlighted the growing threat of terrorism and its implication. Mr Rao pleaded for the early implementation of the Punjab accord in letter and spirit and appealed to the Akalis to cooperate in this. He alleged that terrorists are being trained in Pakistan and given arms and ammunition to destabilize the country. Expressing similar views, Mr Tiwari advocated full support to the Barnala government to deal firmly with the terrorists. He said it is now for the Akali party to rise to the occasion and restore peace and communal harmony in the state.

The former Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, said nobody need have any doubt about the prime minister's total commitment to the implementation of the Punjab accord. Referring to certain doubts being raised in this connection, he said no government worth the name has the right to say that maintenance of law and order will be contingent on something else. He said what we are witnessing in Punjab is the execution of a grand design for the destabilization of India.

Mr Madhu Dandavate, Janata, made an impassioned plea to all political parties not to take political advantage of the situation by playing into the religious sentiments. Citing instances of infiltration from across the western border, he said there is need for stremthening the intelligence system. The agriculture minister, Mr Buta Singh, said that the Sikh religion never preached violence and hatred. The Sikh gurus always stood for peace, brotherhood, and communal harmoney. Anyone indulging in violence can never be a true Sikh. Mr Balwant Singh Ramuwalia, Akali Dal, said that his party always stood for the country's unity and integrity and as the situation is delicate, a conducive atmosphere is to be created to solve the problem. He also recalled how some extremists tried to persuade the Akali leader, the late Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, to speak in favor of Khalistan when they met him in Amritsar. But Mr Longowal said he will rather die than do so.

Among others who spoke during the debate were Mr P. Kullandvellu, All India Anna-Dravida Munnetra Kazagham; Mr Saifuddin Chaudhry, CPI-M; Mr Chirajilal Sharman, Mr Shamlal Yadev, and Mr Kamal Chaudhury, all Congress-I. The debate is continuing.

Hindi Areas To Be Determined

BK031412 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The union government has appointed a new commission on the transfer of the Hindi-speaking areas of Punjab to Haryana

in lieu of Chandigarh. It will consist of Mr Justice E.S. Venkataramaiah, judge of the Supreme Court. It has been asked to submit its report by the 31st of next month.

Announcing this in the lower house of parliament late last night, the home minister recalled that the Mathew Commission [on the same issue] could not recommend the transfer of any village or town in the Fazilka-Abohar areas because they did not satisfy the criterion of contiguity. Mr Narasimha Rao said the new commission will take into account the report of Mr Mathew and will determine the other Hindi-speaking areas of Punjab which will go to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh. It will follow the principle laid down in the Punjab accord which provides contiguity and linguistic affinity with a village as a unit.

Restrictions Imposed on Jammu Border With Pakistan

BK030619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, restrictions have been imposed on all type of movement all along the [Pakistan] border in Jammu region. The restriction will remain in force from 2100 to 0500 for a month.

State Minister Reaffirms Stand on Kashmir Issue

BK020948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] India has reiterated its policy to settle the issue of Pakistan's illegal occupation of part of Jammu and Kashmir through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the Simla Agreement. In a written reply in the Lok Sabha today, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr K.R. Narayanan said the total area of Indian territory illegally occupied by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir is about 78,000 square km. An additional area of over 5,000 square km in Pakistan occupied Kashmir has been legally [as heard] ceded to China under the China-Pakistan agreement of 1963. Regarding illegal occupation by China, Mr Narayanan said India has been seeking the return of the territory through bilateral negotiations.

In another written reply, the minister informed the house that the U.S. Government has indicated its support to India's efforts to have political dialogue for a negotiated settlement of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

Plans To Halt Infiltration Into Assam Detailed

BK020952 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The center has drawn up a detailed plan to check infiltration into Assam. The minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, informed the Lok Sabha today that the survey work for construction of the road along with the [Bangladesh] border will be taken this month. Along with the work of fencing and construction of the road, the surveillance all along the border including Meghalaya has been stepped up. Answering supplementaries, Mr Nehru said the home minister is meeting the Assam chief minister this week to discuss the details.

Further Reportage on UK Foreign Secretary's Visit

More Exports to Britain

BK021402 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, has said that there is great potential for India to increase its exports to Britain. He said that for India there was tremendous scope to supply high technology engineering and electronic equipment where her skill and achievements have earned international repute.

Sir Geoffrey pointed out that both the countries have identified four private areas like telecommunications, robotics, computer software, and biotechnology where Indian and British industrialists and scientists can get together. He expressed Britain's desire to contribute to modern India's development and assist her in the field of power generation, expansion of telecommunications, and exploration of oil and gas.

Further on Meeting With Polish Economic Group

Session Ends; Protocol Signed

BK021415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] India and Poland are to set up joint ventures in third countries. This has been agreed to at the 2-day session of the India-Polish joint commission which ended in New Delhi today. A protocol signed between the two countries says the joint ventures will cover fields of power generation, mining, railways and civil engineering. The protocol was signed by the energy minister, Mr Vasant Sathe, on behalf of India and the deputy prime minister of Poland, on behalf of his country. It covers economic, trade, scientific and technical fields. It says bilateral cooperation will be further strengthened in the field of electronics.

The Polish side has expressed the desire to supply thermal power plant equipment on a long-term suppliers credit basis. Both sides agreed to explore the possibilities of cooperation in on-shore oil and gas drilling. The Indian side also agreed to examine the Polish proposal for their participation in the project for purification of the Ganges.

Reportage on Visit of British Foreign Secretary

Arrives 2 April

BK021538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe arrived in Islamabad this afternoon a 4-day state visit to Pakistan and was welcomed by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

In a brief statement at the airport, he said that Pakistan and the United Kingdom have very good relations which will provide a concrete basis for closer cooperation between the two countries not only for the present but for the future as well. He said that he will also visit the North-West Frontier Province.

The United Kingdom supports Pakistan's stand on the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, he added.

Howe, Yaqub Khan Dinner Speeches

BK030627 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe, has reiterated his government's full support for Pakistan's determined stand on the Afghanistan issue. He was speaking at a dinner given in his honor by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub in Islamabad last night. He said the bilateral relations between the two countries are very good.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in his speech said that Pakistan is greatly encouraged by the consistent support it receives from the British Government on the Afghanistan issue.

The foreign minister said the Afghan crisis created by foreign military intervention has fundamentally changed the regional situation.

The foreign minister added that Pakistan has pursued a principled policy that rejects any attempt to determine the final outcome of the situation within Afghanistan through the use of armed force.

About relations with Pakistan, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that despite some slowdown in the pace of normalization of relations, Pakistan continues to hope that the present difficulties will be overcome and progress toward good neighborly relations will be resumed.

Trade, Afghanistan Discussed at Talks

BK031025 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] At their formal talks in Islamabad today, the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and the British secretary of state for foreign affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe, exchanged views on the possibility of increased cooperation in trade and economic spheres. They also discussed the situation in Afghanistan. The British foreign secretary reiterated his country's support for Pakistan's principled stand on Afghanistan.

UNHCR Arrives in Peshawar To Discuss Afghan Refugees

BK021326 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] Jean Pierre Hocke arrived in Peshawar this morning on a 2-day visit to the North-West Frontier Province. He is accompanied by Minister for States and Frontier Regions Syed Qasim Shah.

Soon after his arrival, Hocke was briefed at the airport on relief operations undertaken by the government for the Afghan refugees in collaboration with UNHCR and other national and international voluntary organizations.

He was informed that there are at present nearly 3 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan with an average influx of 6-8,000 refugees per month.

Earlier, on arrival in Islamabad, he told newsmen that during his current visit he will assess the needs of Afghan refugees. After that he will hold talks with aid-giving countries on increasing aid for Afghan refugees; such aid has decreased slightly in recent times.

Protest Lodged With DRA Over 30 March Shelling

BK021720 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The Afghan Armed Forces fired 67 rounds of artillery on 30 March at 1720 [1220 GMT] which landed in the area near Bahadur Kili in the Mohmand Agency approximately 8 miles west of Nawagai. As a result of this violation one man and one girl were killed.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attack. He was asked to inform his authorities that if such attacks did not cease, the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on the Kabul authority.

Afghan Rebels Capture 2 Posts, Foil Soviet Offensive

BK031041 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have captured two security posts in Pashshad area of Konar Valley. The Soviet-Karmal troops fled away in the areas now under the control of mujahidin.

The mujahidin also attacked a security post near (Saftali) town recently, killing a number of Soviet-Karmal troops and damaging the building of the post. Meanwhile, the mujahidin have frustrated the large-scale military offensive of the Soviet-Karmal troops in Zabol Province recently.

Seminar Dedicated to Imam Opens 2 Apr in Tehran

Khamene'i, Musavi, Reza'i Speak

LD021339 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] A Labbayk Ya Imam [We respond to you, O Imam] seminar opened its work today with speeches by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, Prime Minister Musavi, and Mr Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. IRNA reports that at the session, attended by Brigadier Zahirnezhad, the imam's second representative on the Supreme Defense Council; Colonel Sohrabi, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces; commanders of the three services; Friday imams; the country's governors general; regional commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; and a group of other military and civilian officials, President Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: This is a unique session of great importance.

The president referred to recent remarks by the imam of the ummah regarding using all available resources and mobilzing the people. He said: As always, the Imam's command has created a tremendous readiness among the people. We should make maximum use of this readiness, for if we fail to exploit the exceptional opportunity open to us now grave harm will be done to the revolution and the war.

Describing the grave situation the Iraqi Ba'thist regime is facing, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: From the standpoint of foreign policy, international standing, and morale, the Iraqi regime is now undoubtedly weaker than at any time during the war. It is clearly felt in the United Nations and in the political climates in other countries as an accepted fact that is impossible to defend the Saddam regime. This is also true of the Persian Gulf Arab states who ostensibly provide the Saddam regime with various logistical, economic, and propaganda support. The heads of the regional countries have accepted the fact that there is no alternative other than replacing the Saddam regime. And this is a golden opportunity.

Mr Khamene'i went on: The Iraqi regime is extraordinarily anxious and disturbed from within. In the operations that occurred in northern Iraq following the Val-Fajr offensives, it became clear that the Saddam regime's forces are in total disarray and that that regime is only able to use part of its forces. In the circumstances where the Iraqi regime is so shaky both domestically and internationally, we shall achieve the ultimate result if we strike. This is contingent upon the readiness of our forces.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council added: Undoubtedly, full use has not been made of those with war and support experience. In conclusion, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council expressed the hope that with the formation of war support headquarters in the provinces and the results of the work of these headquarters, the Muslim Iranian nation will achieve victory by overthrowing the Saddam regime.

IRNA reports that later Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi made a speech in which he described the role of the government in organizing affairs connected with the war. He said: The government has placed all its resources at the disposal of combatants; it has made resources available alongside the combatants. Bearing in mind that our political, economic, social, and educational successes are dependent upon victory in the imposed war, the government will make every effort in that direction.

The prime minister called on Friday imams throughout the country to cooperate more closely with governors general. He said: At present some of the ministers spend most of their time on the fronts of the imposed war. God willing, the government will use the present exceptional opportunity to defend the aspirations of the Islamic Revolution.

Mr Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was the next speaker at the Labbayk Ya Imam seminar. He said the reason for holding the seminar is to bring about greater coordination.

The report says that those attending the operating session of the Labbayk Ya Imam seminar later split up into three separate committees headed by Khamene'i, Mir Hoseyn Musavi, and Reza'i to discuss and review matters concerning support for the war.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Speaks

GF030554 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The Labbayk Ya Imam [We respond to you, O Imam] seminar continued its session yesterday afternoon and at a special session reviewed propagandistic issues, manpower, and logistical matters pertaining to the imposed war. In this session, Ayatollah Jannati, the head of the Islamic propaganda organization and the chief of the provincial Friday imams' committee, referred to the national imam's words on the overall mobilization of the Muslim ummah and requested that executive powers be delegated to war support headquarters in the provinces. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis and Supreme Defense Council spokesmen, spoke about the victories of the Islamic combatants in the Val-Fajr-8 operations.

He said decisive victories were attained in the Val-Fajr-8 operations, which so far have been well defended. The enemy did not even imagine that the Islamic combatants could achieve such victories and that we could put up a resistance. The condition of our brothers is far better than in the early days. We have set up durable strongholds and numerous positions in Al-Faw which are possible to dafeguard. The victories of our combatants have had a considerable impact in Al-Faw.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council added: The world now understands much better the Islamic Republic of Iran. The effects of the acceptance of these conditions are apparent now, and the world is ready to accept our victories. Stressing the importance of these victories, the Supreme Defense Council spokesman said the Iraqi status is more shaky than ever and we should not give the enemy the opportunity to recover from the losses sustained.

In conclusion, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani hoped that with the setting up of the war support headquarters on a nationwide scale, the country's resources will be placed at the disposal of the war so that the Islamic combatants may achieve fresh victories.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Comments Further

GF030736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The Labbayk Ya Imam [We respond to you, O Imam] concluded last night. This seminar convened yesterday with the participation of the President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Supreme Defense Council chairman, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, head of the Islamic Propaganda Organization, the interior minister, the Islamic Revolution Guards' Corps [IRGC] minister, Mr Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the IRGC, Brigadier Zahirnezhad, the imam's second representative to the Supreme Defense Council, Colonel Sohrabi, chief of the joint staff of the armed forces, commanders of the three services, Friday imams, governors general from all over the country, regional IRGC commanders, and a group of other military and civilian officials.

At the conclusion of the seminar our correspondent interviewed Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Supreme Defense Council spokesman.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Could you please explain the main points of the important Labbayk Ya Imam seminar in light of its objectives?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The utterances of the imam on the occasion of the birth anniversary of 'Ali ibn Abi Talib gave fresh guidance to most of those who feel their responsibility. The question was, what should be done now? How can we implement the exhortations of the imam? Of course, the issues were clear to a certain extent, but it was necessary to do something about its implementation. The people have shown extraordinary willingness; the turnout is massive at the [registration] centers of the corps [IRGC] and mobilization. Hence, there was a need for planning and coordination and the discussion centered around the objectives and views of the imam. Therefore, we decided that the best course would be a meeting of the Friday imams, the governors general and all prominent officials, and they should discuss the various issues pertaining to implementation of the Imam's views. The corps suggested this, which was approved and implemented. All had gathered and the discussions which took place at the convening of the seminar mostly revolved around what the imam's objectives are and to what extent action must be taken so that they may be implemented; how we should tackle the huge wave of people converging now, which resulted when they sensed their obligation; what the needs of the fronts are; how to provide for them; what the role of the governemnt should be; what the Friday imams' role should be; and what role the governors general and similar government forces, the judicial machinery, and others should have. These discussions were held at the session. In the evening these issues were debated and classified. The spirit in which the decisions were taken was that a headquarters should be set up in all the provinces named the war headquarters and be comprised of the governor general, the provincial Friday imam, who is a deputy of the imam at provincial centers and the regional IRGC commander, as well as an official of the reconstruction crusade who should perform high-level supervision on all matters pertaining to the war at the provincial level, that is, regarding what the people are able to do and what the government can provide and which they should organize. The corps representatives' role will be to inform them of the needs of the fronts. These provincial headquarters will make procurements specified by the corps, either through the people's forces or the government resources, and the necessary sources in the provinces and all the means at their disposal and then prepare them for dispatch to fronts. All the organizations working in this regard will continue to do so. Past responsibilities of individuals have not been reduced. These headquarters will maintain overall supervision over these things. A bill will be formed so that these powers may be delegated to these headquarters so that they can muster available resources, dispatch them, and make decisions. Of course, a supreme council will be set up in the center for those headquarters which will include the Tehran Friday imam, the prime minister, the IRGC commander, the head of the propaganda organization and perhaps others from the armed forces headquarters. They will undertake planning and other tasks which come to their attention. In general, these headquarters and councils will coordinate activities to provide for the needs of the fronts and the war from the country's existing resources.

[Correspondent] In view of what the national imam said on the people's presence at the warfronts, could you please tell us what this decree envisages?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] What the imam said means that those who have the power to fight a war have an obligation. Those who do not have the strength are dutybound to assist in the needs of the war in every way possible. Of course, we are aware that the resources of the people and the country exceed the [needs of] war. Hence it is not possible to induct all resources and potentials to the fronts in one stroke. It requires time and orgnization. Headquarters will specify guidelines when they are set up. All of them will have quotas on the provincial level, that is, a particular province will have to procure a specified amount of manpower in a given time. In such cases, those who have greater ability or readiness will be chosen and given the necessary training. It will be organized in such a manner that whenever the corps or the armed forces announces that manpower is needed, these forces should be ready and should present themselves to the fronts immediately. It will be same for resources. For example, if heavy-duty vehicles or drivers, experts, or repairmen for large vehicles are required, they will be procured and dispatched from among the specialized personnel.

[Correspondent] Do you have any guidelines for the cooperation of the people with these war headquarters?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] I wish to state that the war has reached a sensitive stage. The more people cooperate, the greater will be the hope of a victorious end to the war. Of course the imam of the nation has been saying this time and again in a more decisive and perceptive manner, and an explanation of the imam's words will be heard by the people through these headquarters. [end recording]

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Guard Corps Attacks Iraqi Battalion

LD021111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Report by Central News Unit correspondent in Ahvaz from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters via telephone]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful, following the repeated naval attacks by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the Khawr 'Abdallah waters, last night the mighty victorious warriors of Islam launched some operations to destroy the Iraqi forces along the Bihar-Basra highway.

In the course of various patrol-combat operations against the heart of a commando battalion from the 26th Division of Iraq's Ba'thist Armed Forces, the combatants of Islam succeeded in annihilating more than 150 troops of this battalion.

During this military attack, a number of this battalion's personnel, who were dispatched to the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater only 5 days ago, were wounded. It is necessary to point out that over the past few days, several troops from this commando battalion have sought asylum with the warriors of Islam.

Iraqi Casualties Reported

LD021823 Tehran IRNA in English 1811 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, April 2, IRNA — At least 19 Iraqi soldiers were killed and or wounded in western battlefronts Tuesday and their positions heavily pounded by Iran's Muslim combatants. Iran's Muslim combatants also pounded Iraqi oil installations in Naft Khaneh and Ban-Mil levelling five Iraqi bunkers, blasting two Iraqi tanks and also wrecking one Army vehicle.

Communique No 2428

LD021722 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 2, IRNA — In its Communique Number 2428 released here Wednesday, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that sporadic artillery fire was exchanged between Iran's Muslim combatants and the Iraqi troops in many of the battlefronts Tuesday.

In northern and western battlefronts Tuesday about seven Iraqi soldiers were killed and or wounded and many of their bunkers were levelled. Iran's Muslim soldiers also pounded Iraqi bases in at least 19 missions and returned safely to their own bases.

Elsewhere in the western fronts the Iranian forces levelled many enemy bunkers and wrecked two Iraqi tanks, killing and wounding at least 19 Iraqi soldiers and inflicting damage on industrial buildings in Ban-Mil, and Naft Khaneh of Iraq.

In Salehabad and Sumar one group of Iraqi patrols was repelled by the Muslim forces of Iran incurring casualties.

Artillery fire was exchanged in the southern fronts Tuesday during which the Iranian forces manned their positions and inflicted heavy losses upon the Iraqi troops, and elsewhere in battlefronts near Abadan the Iranian forces checked engineering operations of the Iraqi forces.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi forces sporadically shelled Abadan Tuesday, damaging parts of the city. As a result of the Iraqi shelling, fire erupted in one location of the city but was immediately controlled.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 APRIL 1986

TWA Explosion

Italian claims that the bomb aboard the TWA airliner was placed by a passenger who boarded the plane at Cairo Airport were termed "fabricated stories" in a Cairo radio report accusing the Italians of trying to absolve the Rome Airport security authorities of responsibility for failing to detect the bomb.

Reporting the Italian defense minister's comments on the TWA explosion, JANA also noted his view that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's threats against Italy are "funny and do not scare us." While Tehran radio reported Al-Qadhdhafi's statement to UPI denouncing the bombing as a terrorist action, monitored Libyan media have not been observed to mention his remarks on the incident.

Libya

A Foreign Liaison Bureau spokesman cited by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio denied "rumors" that Col Al-Qadhdhafi's recent contacts with the Saudi and Moroccan kings were aimed at seeking ways to negotiate with the United States. The Jamahiriyah will not negotiate with the United States unless the latter pledges to behave as a civilized country and abandons its "terrorist" actions, the spokesman asserted.

Egypt

Police conscripts on trial for participating in the recent riots are charged with offenses that carry the death penalty, the attorney general disclosed at a news conference reported by MENA. Over 1,000 rioters will be tried by the courts, he said, noting that most of the defendants are conscripts.

Commenting on reaction to *AL-AHRAM*'s 31 March report that Egypt rejected U.S. calls for joint military action against Libya, *AL-AHRAM INTERNATIONAL EDITION stressed that this* article did not claim to speak on behalf of the Egyptian Government because *AL-AHRAM* rejects being described as Egypt's "semi-official" paper.

Sudan

Security police have arrested several supporters of former President Ja'far Numayri who are suspected of involvement in a plot to destabilize the country and seize power, Omdurman radio announced.

In another development, the defense minister stated that a military transport aircraft crashed near Bor 2 April due to "technical problems," SUNA reported. However, the clandestine Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) radio asserted that SPLA air defenses downed the plane with a SAM.

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio reported a new escalation in the fighting between Amal Movement and Palestinian gunmen, noting attempts by Amal to tighten its siege round the Shatila and Sabra camps. Amal also transferred around 1,000 gunmen to Beirut from the Al-Biqa' Valley, according to the radio. The Voice of Lebanon pointed out that the fighting occurred on the eve of the Amal congress, which is expected to elect a new leadership and reorganize Amal's structure.

In other developments, Beirut radio reported the departure of the 45 French observers from Lebanon, while Jerusalem radio announced that an Army of southern Lebanon soldier was killed in a 4 April ambush in Israel's security zone.

Jordan-USSR

Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department, arrived in Jordan and met with Prince Hasan and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, Amman radio reported, adding that the two sides discussed all aspects of the Palestine question and exchanged views on ways to reactivate the peace process.

Iran-Iraq War

IRNA reported that Iranian troops launched another attack northeast of Al-Sulaymaniyah the night of 3 April, killing "hundreds" of Iraqi soldiers.

Iran

Announcing Mohammad Kazem Shariat-Madari's death from cancer, IRNA added that Shariat-Madari's title of ayatollah was removed after his participation in a 1982 coup plot. One of the former ayatollah's relatives told AFP that Shariat-Madari spent the last 5 years of his life under house arrest and that the authorities refused to let him seek treatment abroad.

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SARC Meeting on Economic Issues Opens in Pakistan

BK021042 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, inaugurated the 2-day SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] ministerial meeting on international economic issues in Islamabad this morning. Speaking on the occasion, he said an agreed position on these issues would enhance their ability to project and promote South Asia's vital interest in global economic negotiations and contribute to the realization of the Third World aspirations for the new international economic order. He hoped that the meeting would open a new and significant avenue of cooperation among the South Asian countries and establish modalities enabling the member countries to consult and coordinate their positions on international economic issues on a continuing basis.

The prime minister made an exhaustive review of the problem being faced by the 7-nation association. He noted that the SARC nations have made considerable progress in various fields over the past, but through national and collective endeavors these countries can emerge as a powerful force on the world economic scene. He asked the member countries to primarily focus their development strategy on the provision of health, education, nutrition, energy and other basic facilities to ensure the well-being of their people.

The finance minister, Mr Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto, in his address of welcome said the meeting represented an important new dimension in mutual cooperation. He expressed the confidence that the deliberations of the meeting would result in positive and constructive proposals and recommendations.

The foreign minister of Bhutan in his vote of thanks expressed the hope that the meeting will consider all major economic issues confronting the member countries and adopt a common stand. The inaugural meeting was attended by federal ministers, senior officials and members of the diplomatic corps. Radio Pakistan's representative says that the regular session of the meeting begins this afternoon.

Declaration Urges Cooperation

BK040511 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] ministerial conference on international economic issues has adopted a declaration urging prompt measures by advanced nations and international institutions to improve economic conditions of developing nations and to create an environment for ensuring growth and equality of opportunity. The declaration was adopted at the concluding session of the conference in Islamabad today chaired by the federal minister for finance and economic affairs, Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto. It endorses the call by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo at its inaugural session for a new global dialogue to coordinate economic policies of the advanced and developed nations and also to take measures for a sustained and balanced growth in the world economy.

Realizing the need for the acquisition of knowledge in the field of science and technology, the ministers called for international cooperation to enable developing countries to derive advantages from the rapid technological development.

The declaration reaffirmed the proposal by nonaligned and developing nations for an international conference on money and finance for development and asked it to be convened soon. The SARC ministers also asked the United States and other industrial nations, especially those with large-scale (?capital), to contribute to world economic growth, particularly in developing nations, for more balanced international trade.

The conference said the debt problems should be solved on the basis of equity in the distribution of the burden of (?debt) [words indistinct] (?special concessions should be given to) low income and least developed countries.

The SARC ministers reiterated that peace, disarmament, and development are closely interrelate and called for halting the arms race including nuclear arms so that [words indistinct] amounts of resources (?vastly) can be utilized for development and benefit of all. The declaration said the major objective of a new round of multinational trade negotiations should be to preserve and to strengthen the multilateral trading system. The declaration urges industrialized nations to adopt appropriate industrial adjustment policies baed on dynamic advantage. It also calls for strengthening international cooperation in science and technology. It asks the SARC members to increase the conditions of transfer of technology within the group wherever suitable.

The SARC meeting confirmed the need to launch further negotiaiton which the Third World was discussing since 1979. The negotiations could not be (?held) because of the resistance of a few developed countries [word indistinct]

In his concluding speech, the chairman of the committee, Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto said the decisions taken at the meeting have given a new meaning to unity and cooperation among the SARC countries.

Government Rejects Pakistani Border Charges

LD040633 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 3, BAKHTAR — Charge d'affaires of the embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRA at 2:30 p.m. today and the following was conveyed to him by the director of the first political division:

The concerned authorities of the DRA report that despite the repeated protests of the Government of the DRA, the military authorities of Pakistan have continued their interventions and aggressions into the territory of Afghanistan.

For example, the counter-revolutionary elements together with the artillery units of the Pakistani Armed Forces have conducted repeated shellings by reactor rockets and heavy cannons against the frontier regions of the DRA, Chamkani Darzakhail, Marakhail and Bangesh of Paktia Province from March 10 to March 23, 1986. They have used in their shellings artillery multiple warheads which exist in the munitions of Pakistani ground forces.

Over one hundred civilians were either killed or wounded, fifty residential houses and four mosques were damaged and a large number of livestocks were killed due to these devilish shellings.

The Government of the DRA seriously denounce the aggressions of the military forces of Pakistan and lodges it severe protest with the Pakistani Government and demands from the Pakistani military authorities to put an end to such inhuman actions which brings nothing other than the deterioration of the situation in the borders.

It is clear that the grave responsibility of such aggressions will be borne by Pakistani authorities.

Likewise, the military authorities of Pakistan in order to camouflage their flagrant aggressions into the territory of the DRA have allegedly claimed that the Armed Forces of the DRA have once again attacked on the region of Mata Sanger Berchi and Kharlachi of Parachenar on March 22, on Nawaki region of Bajaur region on March 24, nearby the Chaman City on March 25 and on March 1[illegible] 26 and 27 once again on Nawaki region of Bajaur agency and on March 29 on the regions of Bahador Kali of Momand agency and Chag of Bajaur Agency.

The Government of the DRA after an accurate investigation call the Pakistani allegations false and reject them decisively and demand that the Pakistani authorities should put an end to such slanders.

Ministry of Civil Aviation Formed, Minister Named

LD040232 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] In accordance with the proposal by the DRA Council of Ministers and approval from the DRA Revolutionary Council, the Department of Civil Aviation is upgraded to the Ministry of Civil Aviation with Muhammad 'Aziz Negahban appointed minister of civil aviation.

Tribal Assembly Central Council Elects Officials

LD032229 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The first session of the Central Council of the High Tribal Jirga, chaired by Haji Muhammad Chamkani, vice president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and chairman of the High Tribal Jirga, was held this morning in the hall of the Department of Preventive Medicine. The executive Committee of the Central Council was elected and its draft charter, after discussion and debate, was approved.

Sulayman La'eq, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of nationalities and tribal affairs; Abdorrahim Hatef, chairman of the NFF Central Council; heads of PDPA Central Committee departments; representatives of social organizations; tribal chiefs and members of the Tribal Jirga Central Council took part in the work of the session.

The basic report of the session referred to the importance of the high border tribes Jirga in the history of our country and its results and all-round effects. It notes that the high tribal Jirga was created at a time when the brave people of Afghanistan, in the light of the glorious April Revolution, have achieved specific victories. Those taking part in the session specifically gave an assurance that the tribes and border clans are prepared to fully cooperate with the DRA Armed Forces in shielding and safeguarding the borders of Afghanistan and will struggle decisively on this path.

The report adds that the 154 members of the Central Council of the High Tribal Jirga, were unanimously elected by the High Tribal Jirga at its first session today.

During organizational work of the first session of the Central Council of high tribal Jirga, Haji Muhammad Chamkani, Vice president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and chairman of the High Tribal Jirga was unanimously elected as chairman of the Central Council of the High Tribal Jirga. Subsequently 11 persons were unanimously elected as members of the Central Council of the High Tribal Jirga, and 18 persons as members of the Executive Delegation of the Central Council of the High Tribal Jirga.

Daud Shah was elected as vice chairman of the Central Council and head of the Military Commission; Muhammad Ebrahim Ata'i as vice chairman of the Central Council and head of the Cultural Commission; Wakil Muhammad Hashim Mushwanay as vice chairman of the Central Council and head of the Commission for Securing Liaison; Safar Muhammad as vice chairman of the Central Council and head of the Economic Affairs Commission, and Besmellah Akbari as secretary for the Executive Delegation of the Central Council. The draft charter, after some amendment, was approved.

Besmellah Akbari, secretary of the Executive Delegation of the Central Council of the High Tribal Jirga then read the resolution of the session, which was approved.

At the end of the session Sulayman La'eq assessed the work of the session. He said that we are delighted that at today's session

we saw the high spirit of criticism. Now our elders and chiefs have perceived more than at any other time, their responsibilities in accordance with the demands of the revolution, and they work and struggle for the unity and cohesion of tribes, clans and fraternal nationalities of Afghanistan and for the development and progress Afghanistan's society.

After the playing of the DRA national anthem the session ended.

U.S. Missile Plans Designed To Harm Geneva Talks

LD032039 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Apr 86

[BAKHTAR commentary]

[Text] The Reagan administration has dragged the undeclared war against the DRA to a new phase. It is to provide the counterrevolutionaries with modern weapons — Stinger missiles. According to ABC television, the United States will dispatch the first batch of Stinger antiaircraft missiles to Pakistan to be passed to Afghan counterrevolutionaries by the CIA.

By this dangerous action the Reagan administration is (?taking part) directly in the undeclared war against the DRA. By this terrorist action, the Washington administration once again proves that R. Reagan — who hypocritically makes a hue and cry about the political solution of events around Afghanistan in order to deceive the world's public opinion — has intensified the undeclared war against the national sovereignty of an independent and nonaligned country, and is directly taking part in this war.

By supplying Afghanistan's counterrevolutionary bands with Stinger missiles the Reagan administration has aroused fear and a wave of revulsion among the world's political circles, and also in the United States and in [word indistinct]. U.S. Senate politicians have opposed this adventurist and dangerous decision of the Reagan administration. They believe that supplying such advanced weapon to Afghan counterrevolutionaries, whose evil hands are soiled with the blood of thousands of innocent children, women, and men, will undoubtedly increase regional troubles and in general will fan international tension.

This shows very well that the Washington administration hysterically fans provocation and tension in the world, and does not want the world's people to live in peace, particularly the people of those countries who have chosen an independent line against Washington's (?dictates).

The Reagan administration tried to keep secret the decisions to supply Afghan counterrevolutionaries with advanced Stinger missiles, and to avoid commenting on this issue. However, the fact was disclosed by the U.S. media. Arming Afghan counterrevolutionaries with U.S.-made advanced weapons displays the blatant and hostile U.S. interference in the DRA's internal affairs, and is an example of the Reagan administration's policy of state terrorism. The Reagan administration, which has transformed the policy of state terrorism into official policy, now wants to show that interference in the internal affairs of the DRA has been upgraded to official policy.

On the eve of the Afghan-Pakistani talks, which will soon begin in Geneva, the United States has embarked on supplying the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with dangerous weapons. This decision means that Washington is trying to disrupt the atmosphere surrounding the talks and to create obstacles to a political solution of events concerning Afghanistan.

The bosses of Washington and their aggressive allies must know that Stinger missiles cannot weaken the determination of our people; as before, the stone of disappointment will hit the face of imperialism and its servants.

BAKHTAR Observer Denies Country Illicit Drugs Base

LD300524 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 29, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: U.S. attorney general, Edwin Meese, in a recent press conference in Islamabad inpudently alleged that Afghanistan is a source of illicit drug problem to the world. Anyone who is aware of the drug problem in the world understands how White House statesmen want to misinform the public and to distort the facts.

The highranking U.S. representative has been amazingly quiet about drug problem in Pakistan which is famous as a major exporting country of narcotics and earns annually over 3 billion dollars from its production and smuggling.

The anti-narcotic international seminar in New Dehli confirmed the fact that 70 percent of heroin which is sold in the U.S. and West European black market are exported there from Pakistan. The daily *NATIONAL HERALD* of India exposed the fact that the influential figures of Ziaul Haq's regime at the level of ministers, generals, governors and diplomats are [words indistinct] involved in the smuggling of narcotics.

In a press conference in Kabul this fact was revealed to the domestic and foreign journalists that Fazil Husain, brother of Fazil Haq, former governor of Peshawar, is in prison in the FRG on charges of heroin smuggling.

It should be pointed out that in the smuggling deal the Afghan counter-revolution has a good share and is earning a large amount of money from this source.

The high-ranking representative of Reagan administration, who is the initiator of this slander against our people, should have said that the Afghan counter-revolution is the main exporter of narcotics from Pakistan into the territory of Afghanistan. The security forces of the DRA had detected hundreds of kilogrammes of heroin which was imported here by the counter-revolutionary elements and this is the irrefutable proof in this [words indistinct]

Thus, it is clear that the sinister visit of Edwin Meese to Pakistan is not directed to discovering the main sources of production and export of narcotics but it is aimed at distorting facts and to start a new propaganda slander of the U.S. imperialism against the people of the DRA.

One can conclude that the United States plays the role of international gendarme and follows a policy based on state sponsored terrorism in the world. However, human history testifies to the fact that any state which has followed such a policy has not gained anything but ignominy and disgrace.

Mass Media Achieves Considerable Gains

LD020726 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0452 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 1, BAKHTAR — In the light of the lofty objectives of the April Revolution of 1978 and the progressive policy of the party and state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan considerable gains have been scored in the sphere of mass media in the country.

In the post-revolutionary years, radio transmission stations were set up in the provinces of Herat, Qandahar, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Farah and the Khowst Division aimed at upholding and blossoming the rich culture of the brother nationalities inhabiting in the country.

With the broadcasting of first radio program of the "Afghan Ghazh" (Afghan Voice) on March 21, 1986 in Pashto and Dari languages, the broadcasts of Radio Afghanistan reached eighty hours a day. It is envisaged that with the completion of the new radio transmission project, the possibilities of broadcasting of 150 hours radio programs in 24 hours will become feasible.

The agreement on the project for construction of television studios in Kabul has been signed with the USSR, and the construction work will be started during the current Afghan year, begun March 21. With the completion of the project, during the [words indistinct] years, the possibilities of recording and broadcasting of 15-20 hours colour TV programs and the parallel broadcasting of programs in two channels will become feasible throughout the country.

With the acquistion of membership of the international organization of OIRT [International Radio and Television Organization] it has become possible for the DRA to exchange TV programs with the neighbouring countries.

At present, making use of the Shamshad installation, the important events of the country are broadcast one a week to the members of the OIRT. With the assistance of the USSR, it has become possible to transmit the TV programs of the capital to a number of provinces through satellite.

The provinces of Herat, Qandahar, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Farah, Badakhshan and Khowst Division have TV stations and they have three hours broadcasting daily. The Kabul TV broadcasts are utilised for elimination of illiteracy as well.

Daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR*, which is the most circulated daily in the country, has a circulation of 80,000 copies daily, which exceeds the total circulation of all dailies, periodicals and magazines published in the pre-revolutionary years. The present circulation of all dailies of the country exceeds 500,000 copies while the circulation of the dailies in the pre-revolutionary years hardly reached 40,000 copies.

The circulation of the dailies of the provices, published in the languages of the brother nationalities has doubled.

Besides the dailies and periodical, the State Committee of Publication of the DRA publishes a large number of books. The total number of books published during the last five years by the committee has exceeded 800 titles and a total circulation of 33 million copies.

Rajiv Gandhi Interviewed on Cyprus Issue
NC040748 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 2 Apr 86 p 13

[Interview with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi by *MILLIYET* Chief Editor Mehmed Barlas in New Delhi; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Barlas] What are you views on Turkish-Indian relations?
[Gandhi] They are developing, but the progress here has been very slow. We favor a more rapid development of these ties, and feel that a joint commission would probably be helpful.

[Barlas] Why has the pace been so slow?
[Gandhi] That is difficult to explain.

[Barlas] Were there any obstacles in the past?
[Gandhi] Not as far as I know.

[Baras] Our friendship with Pakistan probably had an effect on Turkish-Indian relations.
[Gandhi] Why should that be?

[Barlas] Your continued support for the Greek Cypriot cause in your capacity as leader of the nonaligned bloc has most likely had an adverse impact on Turkish-Indian ties.
[Gandhi] Let me clearly state our policy on Cyprus. We favor an independent and nonaligned Cyprus free of foreign interference.

[Barlas] But there is a problem: More than one nation [ulus] can live in a given country. If one of these nations does not acknowledge the existence of the other, internal strife and even division may follow. Bangladesh was part of Pakistan once. You have recognized and supported Bangladesh.
[Gandhi] But there were no foreign troops there.

[Barlas] But as far as you were concerned, the Pakistani soldiers were foreign troops, weren't they?
[Gandhi] Yes.

[Barlas] The same thing applies to Cyprus. The Greek Cypriots ignored the Turkish Cypriots. They committed massacres, and attempted to unite the island with Greece.
[Gandhi] There are no such things now, and there is no longer any talk of "enosis."

[Barlas] Well then, what do you think of Prime Minister Papandreou's Pan-Hellenic Socialism? Doesn't Pan-Hellenism embrace Cyprus as well?
[Gandhi] I do not think that enosis is among their current goals. We do not support enosis.

[Barlas] While the UN secretary general was busy drafting a plan for Cyprus, the Soviet Union submitted its own outline for a solution of the problem. What is your opinion of this Soviet initiative?
[Gandhi] This plan will be discussed next month at a meeting of ministers from the nonaligned states. Essentially, we back the UN's proposals and the work of the UN secretary general. Let me reiterate the following point: We favor an end to the tension in Cyprus, and want to see an independent and nonaligned Cyprus among us.

[Barlas] I keep referring to the Cyprus issue because you are now the leader of the Nonaligned Movement. An act of foreign intervention occurred in Cyprus 12 years ago. An extension of the Greek colonels in Cyprus staged a coup and toppled Makarios. Completely ignoring the Turkish Cypriots, they wanted to proclaim enosis. Why don't you take all this into consideration and discuss the existence and rights of the Turkish Cypriots?
[Gandhi] No, no, we have never disputed the rights of the Turkish Cypriots. We want things in Cyprus to return to normal. We seek an independent, nonaligned Cyprus free of foreign troops. Neither Greece nor Turkey should rule the island. We want Cyprus to rule itself. Let the two communities resolve the problem.

[Barlas] The Turkish Cypriots accepted UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's proposal to bring the two communities together, but Greece and the Greek Cypriots rejected it. They did not even come to the negotiating table.
[Gandhi] We support the efforts of the UN secretary general regarding the Cyprus issue.

Swiss Foreign Minister Offers Technical Help
BK031256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Switzerland has offered technical assistance for India's developmental programs. The Swiss foreign minister, Mr Pierre Aubert, made the offer when he called on the industry minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in New Delhi today. The two leaders also agreed to institutionalize industrial and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Welcoming the Swiss offer, Mr Tiwari said India would like to collaborate in the fields of textile machinery, power generation, chemicals, and drugs. He also impressed upon the visiting Swiss minister the need to rectify the adverse balance of trade against India.

Aubert Speaks to Press
BK031634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Switzerland has offered technical assistance for India's developmental programs. The Swiss foreign minister, Mr Pierre Aubert, made the offer when he called on the Industry minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in New Delhi today.

Later speaking to newsmen, Mr Aubert said that he had wide-ranging international and bilateral talks with Indian leaders. During his discussions with the external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat, there was a reference about the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka and the Tamil refugees in his country. He said when Mr Bhagat voiced India's concern about Switzerland sending back the Tamil refugees, he had explained that there is no mass deportation. He assured Mr Bhagat that no one will be sent back without India's consent.

Haryana, Punjab Chiefs Welcome New Commission

BK031623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The chief ministers of Haryana and Punjab have welcomed the setting up of a new commission by the center to identify the Hindi-speaking areas of Punjab to be given to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, [Haryana chief minister] Mr Bhajan Lal said that the appointment of the commission is in the national interest and the implementation of its recommendation will help improve the situation in Punjab and strengthen communal harmony in the region. Mr Bhajan Lal urged the people of his state not to be misled by any false propaganda by opposition parties. He expressed confidence that the commission will do justice to Haryana.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Barnala, welcomed the decision and said that he is glad to note that the commission will submit its report by the 31st of May and the transfer of Chandigarh will be effected not later than 3 weeks after the report is submitted. He said that the Punjab government is committed to implementing the Punjab accord in its entirety.

The general secretary of the Lok Dal, Mr Sharad Yadav, has criticized the appointment of the commission. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, he said that the appointment of the commission reflects the confusion and indecisiveness of the government on the subject.

The appointment of the commission was announced by the home minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in the Lok Sabha last night. It will consist of Mr Justice E.S. Venkataramaiah, a judge of the Supreme Court.

Punjab Casualties Reported, Curfews Relaxed

BK031601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were injured when some unidentified gunmen fired at them in a village near Batala today. The condition of one of the victims is stated to be serious.

The situation in all the nine curfew-bound towns in Punjab continues to improve. A 15-hour curfew relaxation was given in Kapurthala from 0600. In Batala, Muktsar, Jullundur, and Pathankot, the curfew was relaxed for 12 hours from 0700. In Hoshiarpur and Hajipur the curfew was relaxed from 0800 to 1900. The curfew in Ludhiana was relaxed twice from 0800 to 1200 in the morning and 1400 to 1800 in the afternoon.

In Jullundur, curfew is being lifted totally from tomorrow morning. This is being done after the situation in the city has returned to normal. In Nakodar, curfew has been extended up to Monday [7 April] morning.

'Suspected Terrorist' Escapes From Police

BK040326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] A suspected terrorist, Harjinder Jinda, escaped from police custody in Ahmedabad yesterday. Jinda was arrested in Delhi last January. He was taken to Ahmedabad in connection with a bank robbery. He gave slip to the police when he was being taken to the court. A massive police hunt has been launched to apprehend Jinda.

Kabul Charge of Cross-Border Shelling Rejected

BK031529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Kabul administration's protest of yesterday alleging that Pakistani artillery units shelled Chamkani, (Dara Kheyl), (Mara Kheyl), and (Bangash) areas in Paktia Province from 10-23 March. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon and was told that the Kabul administration's allegations have been investigated and found to be baseless.

Karachi Reports Cordovez Remarks on Afghan Talks

BK040928 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan has said that the seventh round of indirect talks on Afghanistan crisis will be held in Geneva on 5 May. Cordovez, who is working as an intermediary in the talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan's Karmal administration, told a news conference in New York that the deadlock regarding the format of the Geneva talks has been broken and that the previous format of negotiations will remain effective so long as the four instruments regarding this crisis are finalized. Cordovez refused to disclose how the deadlock was broken. He, however, said that they have finalized several documents of understanding which are very clear, encouraging and unambiguous.

He said the need for an eighth round will not arise as the viewpoints of the parties concerned have come much closer to each other. The issues which have been under discussion so far include the withdrawal of Soviet forces, and international guarantees for outside noninterference and for the return of over 4 million Afghan refugees — most of whom have taken refuge in Pakistan — to their homeland.

Continuing Reportage on Visit of UK's Howe

Calls on Ziaul Haq

BK031730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. He handed over a message of goodwill for the president from the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher. They discussed the regional situation including Afghanistan and the progress toward political settlement of the Afghanistan problem. Relations between India and Pakistan were also reviewed. The president reiterated Pakistan's desire to bring normalcy in its relations with India. The British foreign secretary paid tributes to the president for the restoration of democracy in the country.

Meets Junejo, Attends Dinner

BK040403 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] With the members of his delegation, the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, called on the prime minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, in Rawalpindi yesterday. He extended an invitation from the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, for Prime Minister Junejo to visit Britain this year. The date will be fixed taking mutual convenience into consideration. He had a detailed exchange of views on various matters including the regional situation and the Afghanistan problem. Sir Geoffrey Howe lauded the prime minister for the successful promotion of the democratic process in Pakistan.

The prime minister and the British foreign secretary expressed satisfaction ever bilateral relations between the two countries. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan was also present on the occasion.

Later, the prime minister hosted a dinner in honor of Sir Geoffrey Howe and the members of his delegation.

Visits Afghan Refugee Camps

BK041029 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] The British secretary of state for foreign affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe, visited an afghan refugee tentage village at Kachagarhi near Peshawar today. Talking to refugees, he said Britain fully supported the efforts of the personal representative of the United Nations secretary general, Mr Cordovez, in finding out a solution to the Afghanistan problem. He appreciated Pakistan's constructive and courageous contribution. He said it now remains for the Kabul regime and the Soviet Union to do likewise and to set a timetable for immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. Mr Howe declared that Britain would do everything possible to further a political solution of the Afghanistan problem.

Later talking to newsmen, Sir Geoffrey Howe described the repeated violations by Kabul regime of Pakistan's airspace as a violation of Pakistan's sovereignty. These violations, he added, were aimed at bringing about pressure on the people of Pakistan.

BANGLADESH

Majority of 16-Party Front To Contest Elections

BK031556 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Eleven component parties of the 16-party Jatiya Oikyo [National Unity] Front have decided to take part in the forthcoming Jatiya Sangsad [parliamentary] elections to help establish democracy in the country. The decision was taken at the meeting of the front held in Dhaka today under the chairmanship of Mr A. S. M. Sulaiman.

Opposition Seeks 'Neutral' Caretaker Government

BK040348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, some opposition parties have announced a campaign to put pressure on the government to end martial law and hold elections under a neutral caretaker government. The 7-party alliance led by Begum Khaleda Zia and five leftist parties at a joint news conference in Dhaka threatened to boycott the parliamentary polls scheduled for the 7th of next month. They said that if their demands are not conceded, they would launch an antigovernment agitation.

Chittagong Medical College Closed After Clashes

BK280910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, the medical college in Chittagong has been closed following armed clashes between groups of students. All India Radio Dhaka correspondent Prabhakar Mishra reports that one group owes allegiance to a political party which has agreed to take part in the May parliamentary elections. The other is opposed to participation.

Police Detain 20 at Dhaka College Residences

BK020748 Hong Kong AFP in English 0743 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Dhaka, April 2 (AFP) — Police have swooped on college residences here and detained 20 people, some of whom allegedly belong to a "terror group," a police spokesman said Wednesday [2 April].

Most of those arrested in the swoop Tuesday "are non students belonging to a terror group" who had forcibly occupied rooms in three hostels of Dhaka College, the spokesman said. Weapons recovered during the raids included firearms and explosives, he added.

The spokesman said that among those held was a man identified as Mr. Sawar, who had been sought in connection with several murders and who was the leader of the group.

SRI LANKA

Athulathmudali Rules Out Sending Emissary to Delhi

BK031108 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali has said that there will be no emissry from Sri Lanka going to New Delhi to initiate peace talks between the Sri Lanka Government and the Tamil representatives and terrorists. However, the minister said that Sri Lanka still appreciated India's efforts in helping to settle the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka also appreciates the peacemaker's role played by former Indian foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari.

Mr Athulathmudali pointed out that the government has prepared the ground for peace talks and for a negotiated settlement. He said that the offensive antiterrorist activity had been scaled down and government had called the halt on air attack on terrorist hideouts and invited the terrorists and others for discussion.

Delhi Cites Minister's Statement on Ethnic Issue

BK030643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] In Colombo, three Sri Lankan cabinet ministers have asked President Jayewardene to devise a framework for early political settlement of the ethnic crisis. Talking to newsmen after a cabinet meeting, the minister of state, Mr Anandatissa de Alwis, said the Sri Lankan Government is looking forward to India's help through an emissary.

The finance minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel, told our Colombo correspondent, Plaban Majumdar, that peace formula acceptable to the major Tamil groups and the majority Sinhalese community should be worked out. Mr De Mel said about 98 percent of the Sri Lankans now want peace.

In an incident at Mankulam near Kilinochchi 8 soldiers including 1 officer was killed and 3 injured when militants blasted a landmine. An official press release from the ministry of national security said 6 persons described as militants were also killed when the forces fired immediately after the incident.

2 Million Rupees Worth of Arms Seized 31 Mar

BK021150 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] The interception of a massive arms consignment worth some 2 million rupees on the eastern coast of Sri Lanka on Monday [31 March] has thwarted terrorist plans to launch a massive offensive.

Defense Ministry officials said yesterday that the weapons were wrapped in polythene paper but seawater had seeped into some of the packages confirming that the goods had come by sea. Among the items seized were 5,000 mortar shells, 2,000 rounds

of ammunition used for anti-aircraft weapons, cartridges, Czechoslovakian-made pistols, 400 kilograms of gelignite, AK-47 rifles, MAU-3 rifles, grenades, ammunition belts and arms pouches. The detection was made by police commandos who rushed to the beaches of Sittandi on the tip-off that arms and ammunition were being unloaded. The arms were being unloaded on to two tractors whenthe commandos intervened. The Defense Ministry suspects that an East European vessel, (*Enlamal*), spotted off Tirukkovil last Friday [21 March], may have been the source from which the weapons were unloaded and brought ashore. In a gunbattle which ensued, two terrorists were killed.

The loss due to damage to the terrorist-attacked (Jawaldarbi) train is nearly 60 million rupees. The general manager of railways, (C.P.S. Veerasuriya), yesterday briefed transport minister, M.H. Mohamed, on Saturday's bomb attack at Omantai which completely destroyed the train. The ministry said that a decision was taken to have discussions with the Ministries of Defense and National Security to map out security for the future operation of trains in the Jaffna Peninsula. Work is now on to repair the damage to the track.

8 Soldiers, 6 Terrorists Killed in 2 Apr Clash

BK031117 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Terrorists attacked a military convoy proceeding from Kilinochchi to Vavuniya in north Sri Lanka yesterday, killing eight soldiers. The terrorists first blew up one of the vehicles of the convoy with a landmine and immediately after the explosion fired automatic weapons. Following this attack, the troops in the other vehicles carried out a counter operation and as a result 6 terrorists were killed and about 20 were injured.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons

LD041150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] Our Muslim compatriots throughout the country observed the political-religious Friday prayers rites today. Tehran's citizens, with their presence in Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares, also observed the Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam al-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani today.

In his Friday prayers sermons in Tehran today the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council referred to the outcome of the recent victories scored by Islam's combatants during the "Val-Fajr-8" operations by saying: These operations have changed a great many problems and a great many of Saddam's supporters have come to realize the facts to a certain extent. Al-Faw's liberation has demonstrated to Saddam's supporters that our combatants could also liberate Basra and Baghdad and that this war could have a military victor and this victor would be Iran.

Referring to the recent moves being carried out by the supporters of the Iraqi regime aimed at saving that regime from an inevitable downfall and the unstinting help given by Arab reaction to that regime Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Regional reaction has placed its oil, roads, ports, propaganda, and espionage capabilities at the disposal of the Iraqi regime. Those of Saddam's supporters who may think that their fate is the same as that of Saddam are making a mistake. They should consider their fate as being separate from that of Saddam. They should not consider our counsels as threats nor continue to prop up the Iraqi Ba'th Party, which is on its way to destruction, to the last moment, as this is not possible. The Islamic Republic of Iran is not calling for an extension of the war and rendering the region insecure. We are expecting Saddam's supporters to learn a lesson from the "Val-Fajr-8" operations as our serious warning in action, but if we notice that our counsels, messages and practical warnings are of no avail, then, with the help of the nation's strata and the armed forces, we shall solve the problem of the war.

Reportage, Commentary on Bush's Mideast Visit

Calls for Oil Price Stability

LD021441 Tehran IRNA in English 1410 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] London, April 2, IRNA — The U.S. Administration has made a U-turn on oil price policy and for the first time has showed an interest in raising the price of oil following Tuesday's fall below $10 a barrel in New York and London. However, Middle Eastern oil industry analysts described the American move as an attempt to hide responsibility for the oil price collapse conspiracy.

Vice President George Bush said Tuesday he would stress in his meeting with Saudi leaders when he arrives in Riyadh at the end of this week that the continuation of the oil price decline was not in America's national interest and Washington would want to see stability back in the market. He acknowledged that the dramatic two thirds drop in the oil price in just four months had "caused some hardship" particularly to American oil industry multinationals and the "continued free fall" should cease.

The United States until now had responded enthusiastically to the sliding prices which was triggered by doubled output from its follower, Saudi Arabia. But after the sharp cut in the price during the past week and a forecast of a drop to $8 or even $5 per barrel by the U.A.E. oil minister, the Reagan administration reversed its position with an expression of concern from Energy Secretary John Herrington Monday.

Mr Bush said cheap oil would reduce inflation "but when it gets to damage your national security interest or gets to throw a significant number of financial institutions into turmoil, to say nothing of the people in the energy industry, that cuts the other way."

But Middle Eastern industry observers are skeptical about the American move. One obvious reason is that Saudi Arabia is America's staunchest ally among the Arab oil producers and would consider such key issues with American officials before taking them up.

An Iranian oil industry source in London saw the latest signals from Washington little more than a political move to deny responsibility for the oil price collapse through its agents in the region. But he said Washington would like to keep prices at $10 to $15 a barrel, still more than half of what it was last November.

On Tuesday, oil prices dipped below $10 a barrel in London and New York markets before recovering slightly. Continued overproduction by most OPEC members and warmer weather were the main reasons given for the latest drop.

The oil industry sources said unless OPEC members came to a genuine agreement to reduce production in their meeting later this month, the price could dip further to around $8 per barrel.

He said most OPEC members and other oil analysts believed that Iraq had become the main stumbling block in the way of OPEC unity and was producing 50 percent more than its OPEC quota of 1.2 million barrels a day. The Iranian source said the circumstances being such as they are there is little hope for the next meeting.

U.S. Concerned Over Iraqi 'Defeat'

GF311442 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 Apr 86

[From the "Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush will undertake a tour of the Gulf region to last several days. This tour, scheduled to begin next week, will include Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the YAR.

U.S. sources have stated that the Bush tour comes in implementation of what they called the U.S. commitment to the security and stability of the Gulf region. Observers view the visit of the U.S. vice president as evidence of U.S. concern following the defeat inflicted on the 'Aflaqist forces in Al-Faw battles.

U.S. Problems in Mideast Cited

LD031850 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT 3 Apr 86

["Bush Visit Reflects U.S. Problems in Mideast" — IRNA headline]

[Text] London, April 3, IRNA — American Vice-President George Bush's visit next Saturday to Saudi Arabia is reportedly the outcome of the ever-dwindling oil prices. Saudi Arabia — one of America's most loyal allies in the Arab world — triggered the fall of the crude price by doubling its production. The initial price drop was welcomed by the U.S. Administration as it seemed certain to help lower inflation and interest rates in the West.

However when the continued oil slump appeared to be a "threat to U.S.n ational security interests," Vice President George Bush said Washington would like to bring pressure to bear on Riyadh to help stabilize the market.

Yet the oil connection is but one minor side of the whole story. The real issue lies elsewhere. In a nutshell, France, the U.S. and Britain are worried about the ideological transformations that has swept among the masses in the region in recent years, which threaten their political and mainly economic presence in the region.

These developments culminated with Iran's thrust into Iraq's Al-Faw Peninsula in the south and into Iraqi Kurdestan in the north. Iran's Val-Fajr 8 and 9 operations sent a shudder among Iraq's financial backers in the Persian Gulf, especially as the Iranian gains took the Islamic Forces within a few miles of Kuwait's border.

This new development was followed by a flurry of "diplomatic" activities involving basically Britain and America. Timothy Renton, Britain's Middle East affairs chief, toured a number of states in the south of the Persian Gulf some two weeks ago. Britain has been competing with France and the U.S. in selling arms to the regional states. In 1985 the British secured an unprecedented military aircraft order including 72 Tornado warplanes from Saudi Arabia and a smaller Tornado order form Oman.

In his recent visit Renton indirectly encouraged Kuwait to step up its military potential, taking advantage from and exaggerating its rulers' fears on Iranian action against them, which Tehran has tried with increasing success to dispel. He stated that Britain would examine a request for war material "quickly and sympathetically." Kuwait is said to be keen on expanding its air force.

Meanwhile, U.S. Vice President George Bush's tour to the Persian Gulf next Saturday has several reasons that are interwoven to a certain extent. The U.S. official will visit Oman, Bahrain and North Yemen but will focus on Saudi Arabia.

The U.S. Administration has been trying to convince Congress to give the go-ahead to a $354 million sale of anti-aircraft missiles to the Saudis, arguing endlessly that the package would deter an Iranian "attack" on America's Arab allies and pose absolutely no danger to Israel.

Congressmen are well aware of the lack of hostility between Riyadh and Tel Aviv but they would want to exert more pressure on the Kingdom to use its influence particularly on the Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasir 'Arafat to accept the Israeli-American scheme for Mideast "peace".

Bush who had talks with the Zionist premier Shim'on Peres in Washington Monday was "grateful" that the Israelis did not pressure Congress to completely veto the Saudi deal. Bush will also mention the Israeli proposal for a new American "Marshal Plan" to save the shaky Arab regimes from Islamic popular uprising. The Saudi rulers, who have worriedly observed a certain radicalization of the Islamic movements, especially in Lebanon, will certainly not turn down the Zionist plans.

The U.S. has not swallowed their humiliations in Lebanon which their forces had to leave, and have not been able to rescue the release of several American hostages held by Muslim groups.

Bush will probably try to involve Riyadh in some strategy designed to undermine Muslim activists in the region.

The American vice president is also expected to brief the Saudis on recent Iraqi-Israeli rapprochement and possible arms and military cooperation in the wake of iran's successful capture of strategic areas, most importantly in southern Iraq.

Tehran Arabic Commentary

GF031905 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. policy concerning the Gulf region clashes with a number of facts about recent developments. The first is the disruption of the balance of power in the region after the "Val-Fajr-8" operations, which liberated a wide area of Iraqi territory. The Saddam regime's retreat in these operations lowered the popularity of the joint reactionary Ba'thist alliance.

It was natural that this would reflect on the U.S. equation, which was set by the White House administration as it treated this region as one of the regions vital to U.S. security. The Persian Gulf region is the first strategic defense line for the United States, which has relied on the oil wealth of this region, the primary reason for the U.S. victory during World War II.

During the past 2 decades, the U.S. Administration treated the Gulf region as if it is part of the United States. It tampered with the waters of the Persian Gulf as if this Gulf is a U.S. basin. It established military bases in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Oman. The United States won the sultan of Oman's signature to allow U.S. forces to use Omani territory. Under the shah, everything was going according to the plans of the U.S. policy makers. However, after the shah's fall and the establishment of the Islamic Republic, the U.S. strategy in the Gulf region was disrupted and the United States had to review its strategy.

The second fact the United States is facing in the Gulf region is the drop in the popularity of Gulf regimes which are still trying

to fill their arsenals with U.S. arms or with arms from countries which are Washington allies. Since the shah's fall, the United State has encouraged these countries to purchase arms to achieve two goals — to turn the region into a military arsenal against what threatens U.S. interests and to activate the U.S. economy which has been facing a steady deficit and a relative drop in production. The drop in the popularity of these countries will lead to a shrinkage in the sale of U.S. advanced weapons. Washington, through the 8-day tour of George Bush to four Gulf countries, will try to study the situation closely, after which it will adopt the necessary solutions to face the two forementioned challenges. But to what extent will this policy succeed and to what extent will Washington succeed in overcoming its difficulties?

Death of Ayatollah Shariat-Maderi Reported

LD032009 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April, 3, IRNA -- Mohammad Kazem Shariat-Madari died of cancer in a Tehran hospital Thursday afternoon. A Qom resident, Shariat-Madari was moved to Tehran recently for treatment of cancer of the kidney. His family were present in the hospital as he passed away.

In 1982 Shariat-Madari participated in a coup against the Islamic Republic and several top theologians voted for taking away his ayatollah title. Later in a television program he acknowledged the coup participation.

Merdad Hospital where he was treated is one of Tehran's most advance medical centers.

AFP: Further Details

AU040730 Paris AFP in English 2359 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Paris, April 4 (AFP) — Kazem Shariat-Madari, one of Iran's seven "grand" ayatollahs and a critic of Imam Ruhollah Khomeyni, died on Thursday in Teheran at 82 after spending the last five years of his life under house arrest, a relative told AFP Thursday.

Ayatollah Shariat-Madari, who had been ill for some time, was taken to hospital in Teheran three weeks ago after his condition deteriorated.

According to his relative, the Iranian authorities had refused the family's requests to let him leave to seek treatment abroad.

The relative, questioned by telephone from West Germany, said the ayatollah's body had been returned on Thursday evening to the holy city of Qom, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of the capital, where only the family had been able to see it.

It was not known when the funeral would take place, he said.

Ayatollah Shariat-Madari, who helped to pave the way for the triumphant return from exile of Ayatollah Khomeyni, fell from grace in April 1982 when he was accused of being implicated in a plot against the government masterminded by former foreign minister, Sadegh Ghotbzadeh. He was believed to prefer a less rigid interpretation of the Koran and disagreed with Ayatollah Khomeyni over the clergy's dominant political role.

Ayatollah Shariat Madari was born in Tabriz, in Turkish-speaking Azerbaijan.

'Sources' Claim Iraq Received Jordanian Military Aid

GF021530 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 2 Apr 86

[From the "Voice of Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] Well-informed sources have said that Saddam requested the help of Shah Husayn during the first days of the "Val-Fajr-8" battles by requesting the intervention of his special forces to drive the forces of Islam out of the region they had liberated.

Shah Husayn replied that the dispatch of his special forces would cost $2 billion and that this sum would have to be paid prior to the issuing of a royal edict. There were differences over this issue, which was finally settled after the intervention of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait which pledged to pay this sum to the shah.

Last week, 'Adnan Talfah, Saddam's cousin and his defense minister, told the correspondent of the swindling Radio Monte Carlo that the forces of Shah Husayn and other forces were taking part in battlefield operations. He said that they were stationed at the rear.

It is worth noting that most Iraqi POW's stress that the forces brought in to rescue Saddam are stationed behind the lines. Their duty is to execute any Iraqi soldier who, for whatever reason, withdraws from the confrontation line with the soldiers of Islam. That is why hundreds of Iraqi soldiers who have been forced to fight the soldiers of Islam have preferred to be taken prisoner by the soldiers of Islam rather than be killed by Shah Husayn's cameleers and Mubarak's mercenaries.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraq Deploys Chemical Weapons

LD032043 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran accused Iraq of deploying chemical weapons against the city of Abadan on March 23d and 24th.

Raja'i-Khrosani, Iran's representative at the United Nations, in a letter to the UN secretary general, stated that (?they) may call for the redispatch of the UN expert group to Iran in order to investigate the chemical weapons. The said letter further notes that if the Security Council had been interested in strengthening of the Geneva 1925 Protocol it would not have stopped at only condemning Iraq, and would have instead adopted more serious measures coupled with punishment against Iraq. For this country, in accordance with the (?clear-cut report) of the UN secretary general, has resorted to deploying chemical weapons against Iranian forces.

Iraqi Bridge Bombed

LD031711 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 3 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 3, IRNA — Iran's fighter planes bombed a bridge in north Iraq Thursday as artillery gunners hit economic centers further south amid skirmishes along the 1,200 km war front. The daily military communique here said several fighter bombers raided a bridge 10 km east of Rawanduz in Iraq's Irbil Province before returning safely to their bases. Lately Ibril Province has been the scene of hit-and-run attacks by Iraqi Kurdish Mujahideen seeking the overthrow of the Iraq regime.

Further south, Iranian artillery shelled economic and industrial centers of Ban-Mil Township, Naft Khaneh and Sardarbani-Khan causing heavy damages, said the communique. In return, Iraqi shelling damaged several houses and shops in the port city of Abadan, according to the communique.

Iraqi patrols also tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in Jofeyr of the southern front but were forced back by Iran's Muslim combatants.

The military communique is published daily by the Joint Staff of the Military Headquarters in Tehran to report war developments in the past 24 hours.

It said artillery gunners shelled Iraqi positions in the Western front destroying 15 bunkers, four observation posts, five mortar launchers, several vehicles and one ammunition depot.

Artillery exchanges continued throughout the fronts but it was reported heavier in the Shervani and Zobeydah of the southern sector.

Combat-patrols in the northwestern front destroyed several Iraqi bunkers and one heavy engineering vehicles while in the south they setup new observation posts to control enemy activity.

The communique reported the gendarmerie forces stationed near Abadan involved in skirmishes with Iraqi engineering units. It said Iraqi troops suffered casualties there.

'Hundreds' of Iraqis Killed 3 Apr

LD040940 Tehran IRNA in English 0933 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' HQ, April 4, IRNA — Hundreds of Iraqi troops were killed in an infiltration operation launched by Iran's Islamic combatants on heights overlooking the Iraqi city of Chuwartah in Val-Fajr-9 theater northest of Al-Sulaymaniyah, Thursday night.

The Iranian forces attacked the heart of enemy positions destroying many of their bunkers and killing all the Iraqi personnel stationed there.

A number of enemy tanks and tens of light weapons were also demolished in this successful operation. The Islamic combatants all returned to their bases safely after carrying out the operation.